THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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Devotees offer puja on Maha Shivaratri day at the Shivoham Shiva temple on Old Airport Road in Bengaluru on Tuesday | Nagaraja Gadekal

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ITC GRAND CHOLA GUINDY, CHENNAI

K'taka student killed in Ukraine

Naveen had stepped out to buy snacks for his friends when Russian shell exploded

ARUNKUMAR HURALIMATH
@Haveri/Bengaluru

THAT niggling fear of young, helpless Indian students falling victim to the war came true on Tuesday, as a medical student from Karnataka, studying at Kharkiv city in Ukraine, was killed in Russian shelling early in the morning.

The 21-year-old Naveen Shekharappa Gyanagoudar from Chalageri village of Ranebennur taluk in Haveri district had stepped out of an underground metro station, where he and other Indian students were holed up, to buy snacks for himself and his friends when the bombs started going off in Kharkiv, where the invading Russian troops have launched an intense assault for the last two days.

Another student from the same village who was with Naveen at that time was injured, said Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai in Bengaluru . However, when The New Indian Express contacted the parents of two students from the village, who are studying at Kharkiv, they said that their children are safe.

After the Russian assault started, Naveen -- who was a fourth-year student at the Kharkiv National Medical University, and his friends were staying at the Beketova Metro Tunnel. They were running short of food and water and had spent entire Monday without food. Naveen, who was the senior among his group, decided to step out and buy some snacks for himself and his friends when he was killed in the shelling.

Around 7 am (Ukraine time), Naveen headed to a supermarket located just 50 metres from the metro station. As there was a huge rush, he could not return early and at 7.58 am, he called his friend asking him to transfer some cash as he was short of money at the supermarket cash counter.

When he did not come back even 10 minutes after buying the snacks, his friends called him on his phone at 8.10 am, but a local resident answered the call and told them that Naveeen was killed in the shelling. "We were stunned. Naveen went to buy food for all of us and he died," said his friend Amit, who was inconsolable. **CONTINUED ON: P4**

'Circumstances of death still not clear'

Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said, "The circumstances of how Naveen died are not clear. From what we understand from his friends, they had come out to buy groceries. He was standing in a line when he was hit. It is not clear (what happened)."

Refugees wait to board a bus in Medkya, Poland, on Tuesday after fleeing Ukraine | AP

IAF to join evacuation exercise

New Delhi: With one Indian student killed in shelling in Kharkiv, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is trying to expedite the process of evacuating other Indians from Ukraine. He has asked the Air Force to join the process under Operation Ganga. The IAF is likely to deploy C 17 planes, which is a large transport aircraft. Until now, only private carriers were involved. **P7**

Another student hurt: CM

Bengaluru: Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday said that another student who was with Naveen Gynagoudar and from his village -- Chalageri -- was also injured in the shelling. But, when TNIE contacted the parents of two students from the village, they said their children are safe. The CM told Naveen's father, Shekar Goudar, that the government is making all efforts to bring the body back. **P4**

Attack coming, leave now, Russia warns Kyiv residents

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

IN the deadliest attack in Ukraine so far, Russia on Tuesday struck the central square in Kharkiv, killing dozens and injuring many more.

Even as the second round of peace talks are set to take place on Wednesday, Russia seems to be changing its war strategy by hitting targets regardless of civilian casualties. After unleashing terror in Ukraine's second largest city, Russia ordered a large convoy of armored vehicles, tanks, artillery and support vehicles to move towards capital Kyiv, a city of three million people.

By Tuesday evening, the troops were just 25 km away from the centre, satellite imagery showed. In a chilling warning to Kyiv residents, Russia ordered them to leave the city as all strategic targets are going to be destroyed. Late in the evening, an attack on the Kyiv TV tower killed five people.

All Indians have left Kyiv and nobody has been left behind, foreign secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said on Tuesday.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy alleged Russia has committed war crime by targeting Kharkiv's main square and causing civilian casualties. While Russia's brutal assault drew widespread criticism, there were also unconfirmed reports of use of cluster bombs in populated areas. However, Moscow maintained it was targeting only military assets and accused Kyiv of using civilians as human shields. Hinting that Moscow won't easily back off, Russian Defence Minister General Sergey Shoygu said the offensive will continue until the goals are achieved.

Earlier, 70 Ukrainian soldiers were killed after a military base in Okhtyrka came under attack, local authorities said.

According to the UN human rights office, nearly 7 lakh people have already fled the country and it has recorded the deaths of 136 civilians, including 13 children.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

6 DAYS TO GO!

THINKEDU CONCLAVE

SASTRA DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY

Want to see my son's body, says father

G SUBHASH CHANDRA
@Chalageri (Haveri dist)

SHEKHAR Gyana Goudar, father of Naveen — who was killed in Russian shelling at Kharkiv in Ukraine on Tuesday, had only one question to those who visited him: When is his son's body being brought back?

Shekhar, who was inconsolable, said that he spoke to Naveen just minutes before his death.

The two would make WhatsApp video calls to each other at least three times a day. "He used to tell me about how he and his friends were cold and had no food and water. I used to instill confidence in him."

FULL REPORT: P4

Karnataka Feb GST collection clocks ₹9,176 cr

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

EVEN as Chief Minister Basavraj Bommai gives final touches to the state budget, GST Collection in Karnataka for February touched Rs 9,176 crore, which is a 21 per cent increase for the same period last year. But as compared to accruals at Rs 9,048 crore in November last year, the rise does not seem significant, experts pointed out.

While some said this is an indication of the economy on the path to recovery, others said there is still a long road ahead before it stabilises to Pre-February 2019 levels.

The higher collection of GST is because of anti-evasion measures taken by the government and stricter enforcement against fake bills. There has also been encouraging revenue collection due to rate rationalisation, they said. **P5**

EXPRESS READ

28 terrorists killed in J&K encounters this yr

Srinagar: There has been a surge in encounters between terrorists and security forces in J&K this year. Twenty-eight terrorists have been killed in 16 gunfights and five encounters in the same period last year.

NATIONWIDE	FEB 28	MARCH 1
Fresh cases	8,013	6,915
Recoveries	16,765	16,864
Deaths	119	180

KARNATAKA	FEB 28	MARCH 1
Fresh cases	268	202
Recoveries	1,119	971
Deaths	14	7

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ALMANAC TODAY
• **Wednesday :** 02/03/2022 • **Year:** Plava • **Ayana:** Uttharayana
• **Ritu:** Sishira • **Masa:** Magha • **Paksha:** Krishna • **Tithi:** Amavaswya 11.13 pm
• **Nakshatra:** Sathabhisha 3.01 am • Moon in Meena Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm
• **Gulikakala:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm • **Yamaganda:** 07:30 am to 09:00 am

WEATHER — MIN 18°C | MAX 30°C — **FORECAST** Mostly cloudy

Sunrise 6.35 am | Sunset 6.28 pm | Moonrise 6.20 am | Moonset 6.18 pm

Permanent projects for city's growth

CM says around Rs 6k cr sanctioned for B'luru development under Nagarothana project

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday said the government has decided to take up permanent projects with a long-term vision for the development of Bengaluru.

Speaking to media persons on the sidelines of the inauguration of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee stadium in HSR Layout under Bommanahalli constituency, he said: "Bengaluru is an international city and should be taken to international standards. Bengaluru has also grown and its population is equivalent to Mumbai's. While Mumbai is growing vertically, Bengaluru is still growing horizontally."

Around Rs 6,000 crore has been sanctioned for the development of the city under the Nagarothana project, he said, and asserted that the government is committed to an all-round development of the city.

Many projects which are held up due to legal hurdles will be resolved soon, he said.

Regarding mitigation of the city's water crisis, Bommai said that Cauvery fourth stage project is reaching completion and about 800 MLD of water is being utilised. In the fifth stage, about 770 MLD would be provided. "Consultations are on with the engineers to get an additional 250 MLD. We would be able to meet the water requirement fully if these works are completed. With this, Bengaluru's drinking water problem will also be resolved," the CM said.

Orders have been issued to prepare a detailed project report to resolve the water issue, extension of underground and storm water drains.

Observing that some layouts in the city are going hi-tech, the CM said that some layouts have been developed with good planning, and HSR Layout is one of them. "Such layouts would be given hi-tech touch with easy access to civic services. We want to make HSR layout a Smart Layout. Other layouts will be selected for similar development for which people will be involved," Bommai said.

The Vajpayee stadium has a basketball court, kabaddi ground and other facilities. It will be turned into a stadium at a cost of Rs 40 crore, he added.

Debris dumped in river, but no action: Party

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

BENGALURU Navanirmana Party has said that sewage water has been diverted into farms since real estate owners are dumping construction debris at night in the Vrishabhavathi river.

In a press note, they said that small farmers who own lands alongside the river have lost almost an acre due to sewage water. Complaints to officials at different levels have gone unheeded, they said.

"Around 30 to 40 coconut trees have been washed away. The land has lost its fertility due to contamination. The illegal dumping has reduced the width of the actual flow area," the statement read, adding that the issue has been brought to the notice of district commissioner, sub-divisional officers, tahsildar, Lokayukta, sub-tahsildar officer at Kengeri, officers of Revenue department in Hemmigepura, president of Kumbalgodu Gram Panchayat, K Gollahalli, and farmer leaders of Kengeri Hobli.

"None of these officials have considered this seriously. Instead, complainants were threatened. Farmers allege that the revenue office has not moved the complaint to the tahsildar office," the party said.

PRAYER ON THE LIPS

Devotees line up to offer puja at the Shiva temple on Old Airport Road, on the occasion of Maha Shivaratri, on Tuesday | SHRIRAM BN

MEKEDATU

Congress padayatra brings traffic to a halt for 4 hours

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

MORE than 2,000 vehicles including KSRTC buses and trucks were stuck in traffic snarl for about four hours following Congress' Mekedatu padayatra in the city.

Traffic was thrown out of gear on the busy Mysuru Road and around Nayandahalli junction. About a thousand police personnel were deployed along the 16-km padayatra route.

Marching towards Nayandahalli junction, hordes of Congress workers joined their leaders for a lunch break at Venkatadri Kalyana Mantapa on Katriguppe Main Road. The yatra ended at Jayadeva hospital junction, disrupting traffic on Mysuru Road, Rajarajeshwari Gate near Jnanabharathi, Byatarayanapura, Vijayanagar and Sumanahalli Ring Road. Till March 3, commuters have been asked to avoid the city's peripheries.

Attention flyers...

In view of the padayatra, the Bengaluru airport has issued an advisory to flyers to plan their trip to and from the airport so as to avoid traffic snarls on Wednesday.

Traffic congestion near Nayanadahalli junction as the Congress rally enters the Outer Ring Road from Mysuru Road | VINOD KUMAR. T

Shivakumar says sorry

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

STATE Congress chief DK Shivakumar apologised to Bengalureans on Tuesday for the massive traffic congestion caused by his party's Mekedatu padayatra. Urging people to cooperate with them for the next three days, Shivakumar said, "This struggle will help Bengaluru get water for the next 50 years".

He suggested that his party workers take the Metro while attending the valedictory event at the National College grounds on Thursday to avoid exacerbating the snarl.

"Previously, we had planned five days of padayatra. But since CM Basavaraj Bommai would be presenting the state budget on March 4, we will hold it for three days," he said, and urged people to take part in the rally.

Following BBMP chief commissioner's order to speed up removal of illegal banners and flexes, Shivakumar alleged that police along with BBMP officials were removing their flexes and banners, but didn't touch those of BJP leaders including that of former CM BS Yediyurappa.

At Bommanahalli, where the CM had inaugurated development projects, a large number of flexes are yet to be removed, he said. "BJP allows Bajrang Dal to hold convention. Why are police taking action against us? I have a list of police personnel who are troubling us," he said.

BDA flooded with queries over new flats as pricing awaits nod

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

THREE upcoming housing projects by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) have already elicited huge interest from the public. The visitors' book made available at the project sites are flooded with inquiries on completion dates and cost, which recommended by the officials, are awaiting approval from the BDA Board.

A senior BDA official told The New Indian Express that the 3BHK flats which are coming up at Chandra Layout on Outer Ring Road have received enormous response. "These are of 1,400 sqft, which is much bigger than an average 3BHK. It would be ready in three months. Going by public enthusiasm, we believe the flats would be sold within 30 minutes of being thrown open for sale," the official said. BDA has proposed price of a flat at Rs 1.04 crore which is yet to be okayed.

The other project that has evinced keen interest is 'BDA Villa Hunnigere project' located 2 km from Magadi Road which will have 3 and 4 BHK flats. "While we are looking at a price of Rs 1 crore for the 3BHK flats, it is 1.2 crore for the 4BHKs. This would be completed in six months," he said. The first-of-its-kind project attempted by BDA would have a club house, gym, play area for indoor sports too. Another mega project will see 600 2BHK flats at Konnadaspura near Budigere Cross of Old Madras Road, for which a price of Rs 54 lakh has been proposed.

Asked about the status of previous batch of BDA flats in the city, the official said that 1,600 flats in Kanminike and Komaghatta still remain. "Since the location is a bit far from the city and road connectivity is an issue, the flats are yet to find buyers," he added. Of the 3,235 flats which were for sale since August 2017 through 'Across the Table' scheme, Malagala, Alur, Doddabanahalli, Valagerahalli and Halagevadarahalli are all sold out, he added.

Farmers' union demands higher land solatium for PRR project

Bengaluru: In more trouble for the Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) project, pending for 17 years now, a large delegation of farmers led by Karntaka Rajya Raitha Sangha leader Kodihalli Chandrashekar, demanded that the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) pay them better compensation for handing over land for the project. Chandrashekar met chairman SR Vishwanath and commissioner Rajesh Gowda with a slew of demands. An official present at the meeting told TNIE, "The farmers wanted to be compensated under the Land Acquisition Act 2013 which would ensure a much higher compensation. The demand was made despite the Supreme Court ruling on January 20 exempting the PRR project from compensation under this Act." The farmer leader had threatened that not an inch of land from farmers would be handed over if higher compensation was not given, and urged the state government to overrule the SC verdict, the official added.

EXPRESS READ

Water supply to be disrupted on Thursday

Bengaluru: Water supply will be disrupted on Thursday from 6 am to midnight due to pipeline linking work for the Cauvery Water Supply Scheme (CWSS) - stage IV project. This necessitates shutting down of pumping stations of the CWSS third and fourth stages which would affect water supply across the city. The divisions that would be affected are North West-1 & 2, West, Central, South West, North East, South East-1 & 2 and East-1 & 2. Details of individual areas that would be affected are listed in: www.bwssb.karnataka.gov.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

02nd March: It's time to remind you that today is two days. Did you know that? Well, it is! Before you think I've gone mad then let me tell you that in some places, the entire time before noon is 'ruled' by the planet Mercury and the rest of the day by a strange astrological feature called the Dragon's head. Does this mean that you should get twice as much done as on a normal day? Perhaps!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
The week is almost half-way through and you still don't seem to have accomplished very much. Perhaps this is not a time for achievement in any orthodox sense. Why don't you try a change of tack? Perhaps you should forget about past delays and get on with your plans.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Fortunate stars continue, favouring mainly those of you with April and early May birthdays. Taureans with late May birthdays will have to wait a little longer for their perfect planetary alignments, but can still afford to rest on their laurels. Remember, though - partners have to take the lead.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Much has been said and written about your financial complications. All I can add now is a reminder that you are still fighting on several fronts, but that within a few weeks the situation will be substantially eased. First, Mercury, your planetary ruler, has to get out of its current scrape.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Various planets, each in their different ways, bring you some pretty bright financial ideas. However, you must move immediately towards putting your plans into effect if you are not to meet arising tide of opposition. But, then, a little friction may be inevitable - perhaps even useful.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
The long-term effect of your current stars is difficult to gauge. What we can say with some certainty is that the general drift this week is towards the clarification of certain personal issues that, until now, have remained irritatingly vague.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
You may be extremely pleased to hear that there could be a happy ending to a rather bizarre story. You might decide that the only way forward now is to put the past behind you and pretend that nothing happened. But then that's not really the case, is it?

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
An extraordinary amount of planetary activity has been teaching you a firm lesson, namely that a house built on foundations of straw will not do. It is time to be more settled. In a sense, you also have to face up to the real world. And not before time!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
The time is fast approaching when you will have to think about terminating one particular involvement. The weekend may be a better time for taking a final decision and breaking the news than now. But some of you may decide that next week would be even better!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
You must get a move on, or miss the boat. Mercury will not spend long in highly favourable and friendly parts of your chart. You should therefore do what you can over the next two weeks to splash out, experimenting with different options, however unlikely.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
A separation, or parting of the ways, may have left you feeling rather bruised. Yet whatever was done in the heat of the moment may still be undone, if you so wish. It's all a question of commitment. It's also a question of working out just why you feel as you do.

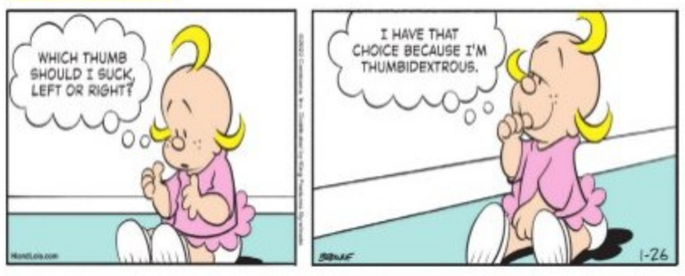
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
You are renowned for your sheer inventive genius. Let's hope that teachers, employers, colleagues and relatives are now prepared to give you the space to play around with some of your more special ideas. You should take care that nobody misunderstands your real intentions, though.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
You have an unfortunate habit of poking your nose into other people's affairs, even when it's not wanted. Endearing as this naive quality can be, let me warn you not to push your luck as the week draws to its close. After all, someone may try and bite it off!

THE PHANTOM

AT LEAST GURAN HASN'T TURNED UP AT THE DOOR—THAT'S A GOOD SIGN!
DAD AND I ARE THE ONLY ONES TO KNOW I'M HERE IN THE MOUNTAIN CITY....
ALL THE SAME, IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO DAD, I KNOW GURAN WOULD FIND ME.
DE PAUL + MANGELS
HE'D NEVER GIVE UP!

HI AND LOIS



BEETLE BAILEY

WHERE ARE YOU FROM, ROCKY?
HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE
DID YOUR FATHER HAVE TO MOVE A LOT BECAUSE OF HIS JOB?
NO, BECAUSE OF THE POLICE
GREG + MORT WALKER

BLONDIE

HOORAY! NO LOUSY ZOOM GATHERING THIS YEAR!
YEAH, WE'RE BOOKING A REAL CHRISTMAS PARTY!!
IT'S NICE OF YOUR BOSS TO THROW ONE FOR YOU
ARE YOU KIDDING? NOT THAT PENNY-PINCHING SKINFLINT
OH, HE'S JUST A CHEAPSKATE...WE ALL HAD TO CHIP IN OURSELVES
OH, MY
HE'S KIND OF A SAWED-OFF TIN-CAN NAPOLEON
YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND
I MIGHT

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE

SU DO KU

Easy: Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

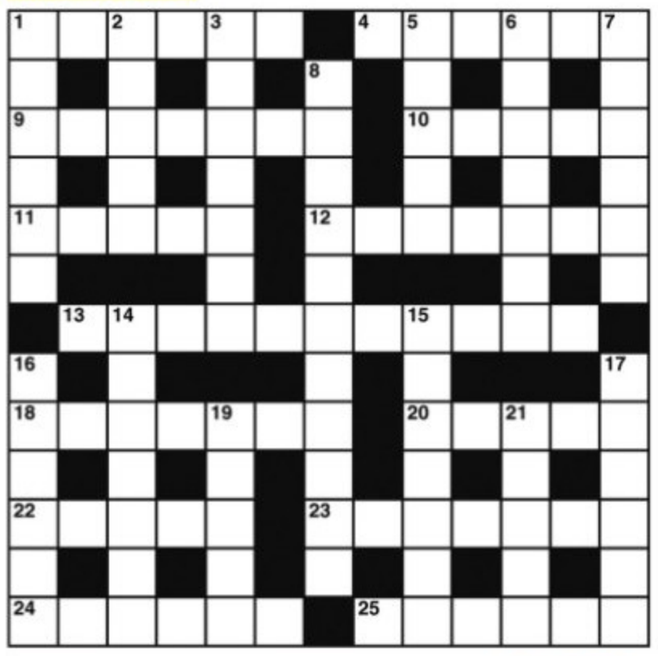
Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

8			4		5	2		
	3			7			6	
	5	2		3	8			9
	1	7	3	8				
	8		2		6		7	
				5	7	8	2	
1			5	6		7	4	
	9			4			8	
		4	8		3			5

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

6	2	8	4	9	5	7	1	3
4	5	3	1	8	7	2	9	6
9	7	1	6	3	2	4	5	8
2	6	9	3	7	1	8	4	5
8	3	5	9	2	4	6	7	1
1	4	7	5	6	8	9	3	2
7	9	6	2	5	3	1	8	4
5	8	4	7	1	6	3	2	9
3	1	2	8	4	9	5	6	7

CROSS WORD



ACROSS
1 Buffalo Bill tours the Middle East for fun (6)
4 Detached state of the caribou (6)
9 Firm receives clear order for a boat (7)
10 Do return with our bouquet (5)
11 Ring an agent back at Covent Garden? (5)
12 An error in the wage packet? (7)
13 More than mere business acquaintances (4,7)
18 Title given to James novel (4,3)
20 Class distinction (5)
22 My lie is found out by a girl (5)
23 Ill treatment? (7)
24 Sampled the last of the fruit - fresh dates (6)
25 Repeatedly set about a fly (6)

DOWN
1 Two companies joining together on a silk product (6)
2 Get involved in someone else's business? (5)
3 Badly presented medical lecture (7)
5 Look round New York - it's crazy (5)
6 Oil ran about and caused damage (7)
7 Sharp rap but different (6)
8 Character in rage meant to explode (11)
14 The antiquarian's avowed interest is shattered (2,5)
15 Guards companies (7)
16 Notwithstanding it's a vestment to fasten up (6)
17 Note bird dog (6)
19 James's girl? (5)
21 Clothing workers? (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Masseur, 5 Sadie, 8 Doctor of Music, 9 Ennui, 10 Empress, 11 Sphinx, 12 Heated, 15 Release, 17 Patch, 19 Private income, 20 Sight, 21 Dresses.

Down: 1 Midge, 2 Second helping, 3 Emotion, 4 Rhodes, 5 Sum up, 6 Dissertations, 7 Excused, 11 Stripes, 13 Expense, 14 Defend, 16 Apart, 18 Heels.

JUMBLE By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HLYSY

LIQTU

SAWELE

CPTIEK

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Precedence. P-R-E-C-E-D-E-N-C-E Precedence.
She definitely knows this!
Your word is, "Precedence."
THE SPELLING BEE CONTESTANT QUICKLY SPELLED THE WORD "PRECEDENCE"

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

Print answer here: ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) " ( ) ( ) "

ANSWERS TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S **Jumbles:**
SCOUT OBESE BOTTLE FREELY
ANSWER: After alphabetizing all the books, the librarian was – OUT OF SORTS

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

03 BENGALURU | WEDNESDAY 02.03.2022 | newindianexpress.com

The Karnataka High Court has directed the State Government and Bangalore University to consider the demand of some employees for regularisation of services. The petitioners have completed service in the university ranging from 20 to 25 years and are all aged between 43 and 57 years

TRACKING COVID-19

DURATION OF PANDEMIC
1 YEAR, 357 DAYS

CASES REPORTED
Today: **202** | Yesterday: **268**

TALLY
Today: **39,41,265**
Yesterday: **39,41,063**

DEATHS	DISCHARGES
Today: **7**	Today: **971**
Yesterday: **14**	Yesterday: **1,119**

ACTIVE CASES
Today: **4,847**
Yesterday: **5,623**

POSITIVITY RATE	MORTALITY RATE
Today: **6.10%**	Today: **1.01%**
Yesterday: **6.10%**	Yesterday: **1.01%**

RECOVERY RATE
Today: **98.86%**
Yesterday: **98.84%**

DISTRICT-WISE COVID CASES
LAST 24 HOURS

Bengaluru Urban	**150**
Bengaluru Rural	**1**
Bagalkot	0
Ballari	3
Belagavi	4
Bidar	1
Chamarajanagar	0
Chikkaballapur	0
Chikkamagaluru	3
Chitradurga	2
Dakshina Kannada	1
Davanagere	4
Dharwad	0
Gadag	3
Hassan	2
Haveri	0
Kalaburagi	0
Kodagu	0
Kolar	1
Koppal	0
Mandya	0
Mysuru	6
Raichur	0
Ramanagara	0
Shivamogga	3
Tumakuru	10
Udupi	2
Uttara Kannada	4
Vijayapura	2
Yadgir	0

New model to predict vax efficacy

IISc, Oz researchers' predictions closely matched efficacy reported in vaccine clinical trials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

RESEARCHERS from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) in Australia have developed a mathematical model to predict how antibodies generated by Covid-19 vaccines offer protection against symptomatic infections. This model aims at finding optimal use of available Covid-19 vaccines while speeding up development of new ones.

The idea of developing such a model was felt in the background of different vaccines having differing levels of efficacy. The study has been published in *Nature Computational Science*.

The researchers first analysed over 80 different neutralising antibodies reported to be generated after vaccination against the surface spike protein of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19. These antibodies are typically present in the blood for months and prevent virus entry by blocking the spike protein.

A health worker administers a booster dose to a woman, in Bengaluru | EXPRESS

The researchers hypothesised that these 80 antibodies constitute a landscape, and each individual produces a unique profile of antibodies which is a small, random subset of this landscape. The team then developed a mathematical model to simulate infections in a virtual patient population of about 3,500 people with different antibody profiles, and predict how many of them would be protected from symptomatic infection following vaccination, according to an IISc release.

"The reason why predicting vaccine efficacy has been hard is that the processes involved are complex and operate at many interconnected levels," Prof Narendra Dixit of the Department of Chemical Engineering, IISc, and senior author of the study, said. "Vaccines trigger a number of antibodies, each affecting virus growth in the body differently. This, in turn, affects the dynamics of the infection and the severity of the associated symptoms. Further, different individuals generate different collections of antibodies and in different amounts."

Pranesh Padmanabhan, Research Fellow at QBI, the first author of the study, said this diversity of antibody responses was a challenge to comprehend and quantify. The model, developed by the team, can predict the level of protection after vaccination based on the antibody profile of the individual, and the predictions were found to closely match the efficacy reported in clinical trials for all the major approved vaccines.

BIG RELIEF

Post-Covid diabetes may be temporary: Study

CHETANA BELAGERE
@ Bengaluru

A recent study by the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) may bring relief to thousands of people in Karnataka who have been diagnosed with diabetes post Covid-19 infection. The study found that onset of diabetes may be a temporary form of the disease related to the acute stress of the viral infection and may return to normal blood sugar levels after a few days or months.

"This suggests that newly diagnosed diabetes may be a transitory condition related to the acute stress of Covid-19 infection," explained Sara Cromer, MD, an investigator with the Department of Medicine-Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism at MGH, and also the main author of the study published in the 'Journal of Diabetes and its Complications'.

The outcome of the study suggested that acute insulin resistance was the major mechanism underlying newly diagnosed diabetes in most patients with Covid-19 and that insulin deficiency, if at all it occurs, is generally not permanent. Interestingly, the MGH study showed individuals with new onset had higher inflammatory markers and required admission to hospital ICUs more frequently than Covid-19 patients with pre-existing diabetes.

Several doctors in Karnataka too have found such cases where the patients have needed only insulin or other medications for a shorter duration. The author also says, "These patients may need insulin or medication for a short time, and it's therefore critical that physicians closely follow them to see if and when their conditions improve."

The follow-up of cohort used for the study showed that those who had onset of diabetes with Covid-19 had normal blood sugar after a year of insulin or medicine treatment.

Endocrinologists in Karnataka also argue that Covid-19 may push patients with pre-existing, but undiagnosed diabetes, to see a physician for the first time, where their blood sugar disorder can be clinically diagnosed. "It is partially true that there is an onset of diabetes in some patients during Covid, except those who may have underlying diabetes that was incidentally detected during Covid illness," Dr Mahesh D M, Consultant, Endocrinology, Aster CMI Hospital, said.

Doctors believe that steroids used in Covid-19 treatment also may also cause peaks in sugar levels in some patients leading to diabetes. "The diabetes may be temporary in patients who are having mild increase in sugar or it maybe steroid-induced. We are still not sure about the temporary and permanent diabetes in such patients," they said.

EXPRESS READ

City pvt hospital gets state-of-art cath lab

Bengaluru: A private hospital in the city on Tuesday got Karnataka's most advanced cath lab for faster intervention in interventional cardiology and cardiovascular procedures. The cath lab at Fortis Hospital was inaugurated by Dr CN Manjunath, Director, Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research. The high-end version of Philips AZURION 7F12 will help cardiologists and cardiac surgeons optimise and standardise system set-up for cases, from routine to advanced procedures. The lab will allow patients to have more effective and less invasive treatment options with superior care and low radiation exposure. ENS

GENOMICS CENTRE TO GIVE BOOST TO PREVENTIVE HEALTHCARE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

MAPMYGENOME India, a personal genomics company, opened a genomics experience centre in Bengaluru on Tuesday. The National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories- and Indian Council of Medical Research-certified centre will provide services such as genetic tests, genetic counselling, blood tests, health screening tests, antibody tests and Covid-19 RT-PCR tests.

It was inaugurated by IT and BT Minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayan and Biocon Ltd and Biocon Biologics Ltd chairperson Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw.

"We are calling it a genomics experience centre as we will combine genomics with lifestyle and preventive biochemistry. We also have nutrition, medical and genetic counselling for our customers. We chose Bengaluru for our first experience centre as it is a melting pot of the modern and the traditional," said Anu Acharya, CEO of Mapmygenome.

The company said it aims to provide more personalised experience in genetic testing and its possibilities among the tech-savvy customers of Bengaluru. They also intend to provide customers a real-time experience about the process of genetic testing and actionable plans in preventive healthcare under the expertise of certified genetic counsellors.

"We will support this venture in any way possible. It will definitely help ten crore people of the state in facilitating preventive healthcare," said Narayan.

Mazumdar-Shaw said the pandemic has really shown the need for genomic expertise. In this backdrop, it is great to have a company expanding their services to preventive genomics that combines genomic sequencing and biochemistry, she added.

In a press statement, the company said data confidentiality of customer is a priority and it is powered through secure Biotracker LIMS.

TEACHERS WANTED

ST. PHILOMENA'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL & PU COLLEGE
Mariyappanapalya, near Jnanabharathi, Bengaluru-560056.
Affiliated to ICSE-KA413.
Required Qualified & Experienced Teachers for High School.
Subjects:- English, Social, G.Science, Hindi, Computer, Maths & Accountant for Office.
Contact No: 080-23241515, 7411940787

SAD DEMISE

G Madhavan
75 years
Former Executive Secretary, Indian Academy of Sciences.
Funeral at Hebbal Crematorium on 2 March at 9.30 am.
Sorrowing
Family and Relatives

Irrigation Department, Office of the Superintending Engineer Project Circle, Piravom
REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)/SHOPPING PROCEDURES

Name of Work:	PIP-DRIP-Investigation estimate for construction of new vehicular bridge at Downstream of Maniyar Barrage for connecting existing roads on either side of the river for restricting entry of public and vehicles through barrage top road.
Tender ID	2022_SEPCP_478118_1
RFQ No.	01/RFQ/SEPCP/2021-22/NS
Estimate PAC	Rs. 8,69,091/-
Date of publishing	26/02/2022
Bid Submission end date	14/03/2022
EMD:	Rs. 21,800/-
Tender Class	C Class

Sd/-, Superintending Engineer

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Dabaspet Branch
Madhugiri Road, Near Police Station,
Dabaspet-562111, Tel: 080 - 27683909
E-mail: cb3285@canarabank.com

POSSESSION NOTICE
13(4) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **Canara Bank, Dabaspet** under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **28.10.2018** calling upon the Borrower/s **Mr. Vimal K** S/o Kumarswamy and **Mr. Shivakumar Naik** S/o Raja Naik to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs. 1,39,28,182** (One Crore Thirty Nine Lakh Twenty Eight Thousand One Hundred and Eighty Two Rupees Only) with interest thereon Within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this **25th day of Feb of the year 2022.**
The borrower in particular and the public general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Canara Bank, Dabaspet Branch** for an amount of **Rs. 1,39,28,182/-** And interest thereon.
The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

All that is Part and Parcel of Land and Building Situated at Khatha No.12/750/706, measuring 31 X40 Feet Situated at Deshadapete Road, Yelahanka Town and Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Urban District. Bounded on: East by : Property of Lingappa, West by : Property of Kalana Narasamma, North by : Remaining Property. South by : Property of Shoeb Pasha and Altaf Pasha.

Date : 25.02.2022
Place : Dabaspet
Sd/-Authorized Officer
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform General Public that my client/s, are intending to purchase the Schedule Property from its Co-owners i) Sri.Shivanna, Son of Sri.Maregowda, Aged about 69 years, Residing at No:10, Near Water Tank, Yedatthur Doddi, Kanakapura Taluk, Chakkasadenahalli, Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112, PAN : ETQPS2690P / AADHAAR : 8328 3080 7463, ii) Smt.Gowramma, Wife of Sri.Shivanna, Aged about 59 years, Residing at No:10, Near Water Tank,Yedatthur Doddi, Kanakapura Taluk, Chakkasadenahalli, Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112, iii) Smt.Sharadha S, Wife of Sri.Mahadeva Aged about 46 years, residing at No:36, First Main, First Cross, Chunchanaghatta Main Road,Om Shiva Shakthi Nagar, Konanakunte, Bangalore - 560 062, AADHAAR : 6195 9147 0172, iv) Sri.Yuvaraj, Son of Sri.Shivanna, Aged about 45 years, Yedatthur Doddi, Kanakapura Taluk, Chakkasadenahalli, Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112,AADHAAR : 7830 9916 2501, v) Smt.Mahadevama, Wife of Sri.Yuvaraj, Aged about 35 years, residing at No:10, Near Water Tank , Yedatthur Doddi, Kanakapura Taluk, Chakkasadenahalli, Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR :2094 8592 1467, vi) Miss.Vidyashree Y, Daughter of Sri.Yuvaraj, Aged about 17 years, Yedatthur Doddi, Kanakapura Taluk, Chakkasadenahalli, Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112, vii) Miss.Bhavana, Daughter of Sri.YuvarajAged about 15 years, residing at No:10, Near Water Tank , Yedatthur Doddi, Kanakapura Taluk, Chakkasadenahalli, Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 8024 3629 0054, viii) Sri.Durgegowda, Care of Shivanna Aged about 42 years, Yedatthur Doddi, Avaramala Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 3774 5052 8144, ix) Smt.Bhavya, Care of Sri.Durgegowda, Aged about 33 years, Residing at Yadatthur Doddi, Maralavadi Hobli, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 9529 1712 6369, x) Miss.Lavanya K, Daughter of Durgegowda, Aged about 17 years, Rresiding at No:35, Kuvempu Road, Jaraganahalli, Bangalore south, J P Nagar, Bangalore – 560078, AADHAAR : 5816 1352 6319, xi) Master Harshith Gowda K, Care of Sri.Durgegowda, Aged about 15 years, Residing at : Yadatthur Doddi, Avaremala, Karikaldoddi, Kanakapura Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 8465 7636 9113, xi) Sri.Durgegowda, Son of Nagegowda, Aged about 62 years, residing at :Yedatthur Doddi , Avaremala, Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 8623 4801 5059, xiii) Smt.Vijayamma, Wife of Durgegowda, Aged about 39 years, residing at : Yedatthur Doddi, Mallige Metlu, Maralavadi, Kanakapura, Ramanagar – 562 121, AADHAAR : 6127 6242 5121, xiv) Smt.Suvarna, Wife of Nagaraju, Aged about 35 years, residing at No: 53, Near Anganawadi, Gandhinagarm Kaggalipura, Bangalore - 560 062, AADHAAR : 2298 1303 7370, xv) Sri.Pradeep Y D, Son of Durgegowda, Aged about 34 years, residing at : Maralavadi Road, Yedatthur Doddi, Doddamaralawadi, Maralavadi, Kanakapura, Ramanagar - 562 121, AADHAAR : 4985 4587 4596, xvi) Sri.Kuchela, Son of Maregowda, Aged about 69 years, residing at : Yedatthur Doddi, Maralawadi Hobli, Avaremala, Karikaldoddi Ramanagar - 562 112, PAN : KTYPK8844K / AADHAAR : 5764 5482 1969, xvii)Smt. Sundaramma, Wife of Kuchela, residing at : Yedatthur Doddi, Maralawadi Hobli, Avaremala, Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar - 562 112, AADHAAR : 8781 4695 0424, xviii)SRI. PRASHANTH, Son of Kuchela, Aged about 24 years, residing at : Yedatthur Doddi, Maralawadi Hobli, Avaremala, Karikaldoddi , Ramanagar - 562 112, AADHAAR : 5082 6947 0989, xix)Smt.Rathnamma, Wife of Puttaswamy, Aged about 58 years, residing at : Karikaldoddi Gate, Maralawadi Hobli, Yedatthur Doddi, Avaremala, Karikaldoddi Ramanagar - 562 112, AADHAAR : 5324 0906 6286, xx) Sri.Puttaswamy, Son of Hombalegowda, Aged about 74 years, Residing at No:14, Yedatthur Doddi, Doddasadenahalli, Ramanagar – 562 112, PAN : GNRPP0264F / AADHAAR : 4889 8503 4485, xxi) Sri.Prakash, Son of Puttaswamy, Aged about 41 years, residing at No:25, First Cross, Papaiah Layout, BTM First Stage, Madivala, Bangalore – 560 068. AADHAAR : 2229 2506 4814, xxii) Sri. Chikkaputte gowda, Son of Sri.Hombalegwoda, Aged about 61 years, residing at No:Near Main Road Yedatthur Doddi, Kanakapura Taluk, Chakkasadenahalli, Karikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 9203 0007 7228, xxiii) Smt. Shivamma, Wife of Sri.Chikka Puttaiah, Aged about 61 years, residing at Yedatthur Doddi, Kanakapura Taluk, Chakkasadenahalli, Karikaldoddi, RAMANAGAR – 562 112, AADHAAR : 2553 7854 1241, xxiv) smt. Sudha, Wife of Sri. Nagaraju K, aged about 31 years, residing at Sidi Devarahalli, Kanakapura Taluk, Maralavadi, Kanakapura , Ramanagar – 562 121, AADHAAR : 5026 0649 9662, xxv)Smt.Lakshmamma, Wife of Sri.Kempegowda, Aged about 54 years, residing at No:98, Maralavadi Main Road, Anehosahalli, Malligemettu,Kanakapura, Ramanagar – 562 121, AADHAAR : 7072 5823 9243, xxvi)Sri.Kabbalegowda, Son of Maregowda, Aged about 84 years, residing at Yedathur Doddi, Kanakapura, Herohalli, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 6100 8969 7005, xxvii)Smt. Muddamma, Wife of Kabbalegowda, Aged about 79 years, Residing at Yedathur Doddi Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Kaarikaldoddi, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 9282 9019 1005, xxviii)Smt. Rathnamma, Wife of Basavaraju, Aged about 63 years, residing at Yedathur Doddi, Avaremala, Karikaldoddi, Kanakapura, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 3007 0133 0194, xxix) Sri.Basavaraju, Son of Kabbbale gowda, Aged about 73 years, residing at : No:15 Yedathur Doddi, Avaremala, Karikaldoddi, Kanakapura, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 7374 0095 4477, xxx) Sri.Chandrappa, Son of Kabbalegowda, Aged about 69 years, residing at : Yedathur Doddi Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Konasandra, karikaldoddi, Kanakapura, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 3916 2782 7040 , xxxi) Smt.Parvathamma, Wife of Chandrappa, Aged about 44 years, residing at : Yedathur Doddi Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Konasandra, karikaldoddi, Kanakapura, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 9255 5526 1827, xxxii) Sri. Shankara C, Son of Chandrappa, Aged about 28 yearsResiding at No: 12, Yedathur Doddi Village, Konasandra, karikaldoddi, Kanakapura, Ramanagar – 562 112, AADHAAR : 7766 5824 3940, xxxiii) Smt. Nagamma, Daughter of Chandraiah, Aged about 73 years, residing at No:Doddasadenahalli, Avaremala, Karikaldoddi, Kanakapura, Ramanagar – 562 112. AADHAAR : 7428 3786 5970, xxxiv) Sri.S S Prashanth, Son of late S V Srinivas, Aged about 47 years, residing at : No:1/1, Chikkanna Garden, Fifth Main Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560 018, PAN :AASPP5300L / AADHAAR : 4917 8349 8632, xxxv) Smt.Shilpa Prashanth, Wife of Sri.S S prashanth, Aged about 42 years, Residing at : No:1/1, Chikkanna Garden, Fifth Main Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560 018, PAN : BLTPS9085E / AADHAAR : 6995 6864 1676 and xxxvi) Sri.Prajval S Prashanth, Son of Sri.S S Prashanth, Aged about 23 years, Residing at : No:1/1, Chikkanna Garden, Fifth Main Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560 018, PAN : EGIPP0261E / AADHAAR : 5888 0439 4849 and the Co-owners have represented that they are not in possession of the original title deeds of the Schedule Properties;

Any, person, having any claim over the above property claiming through the predecessors in title or any other person, may lodge their objections or claims, in writing with all supporting documentary evidence by registered post with regard to such claim with the undersigned within fifteen (15) days hereof, failing which my clients will proceed to conclude the Sale Transaction. Any claims lodged thereafter will not be entertained by my clients;

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of agricultural land measuring 5 Acres 8 Guntas and 8 Guntas of Kharab land in Sy.No:89/1 (portion of land in old Sy.No:89), Katha No:479A, 479B, 479C, 491 and 492, Assessed at Rs.6.56/-, situated at Avaremala Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District and bounded on the :

East by : Land in Sy No:89/2 belonging to Late.Siddegowda;
West by : Land in Sy No:41/2 belonging to..... and Land in Sy No:41/1 beloning to Smt.Honnamma and others;
North by : Land in Sy No:295/1 beloning to Sri.Siddalinge Gowda;
South by : Kodihalli Village Boundary;

N S SATYANARAYANA GUPTA,
K S NAYAK, N S RACHANA, N C JANARDHAN
Rachana Law Associates,
"Lakshmideep", I Floor, No:2980, 17th Cross, Banashankari II Stage, BANGALORE – 560 070; PH : 26761209 / 26765286 Dt: 01-03-2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is represented to the Undersigned that, Smt. Shakeera Begum, wife of Shri. Y.M. Ismail, has lost/misplaced the below mentioned original documents with respect to Property bearing Municipal No. 1186 (PID No. 74-1-1186), measuring 2700 square feet situated at H.A.L 2nd Stage, Bangalore.

a) Allotment Letter dated 23/11/1973 bearing No. B4/1186-HAL II/73-74 issued in favour of Mr. Javeed Ahmed, son of Mr. T. M. Vazir Ahmed @ T.M. Vazeer Ahmed; and
(b) Possession Certificate dated 26.04.1977 bearing No. P.R. No. 167/1976-77 issued in favour of Mr. Javeed Ahmed, son of Mr. T. M. Vazir Ahmed @ T.M. Vazeer Ahmed.

It is further represented that she has not mortgaged, created any lien or encumbered the aforesaid property in any manner or pledged the aforesaid original documents as security to Financial Institutions/ Banks or entered into any Agreement of Sale/Memorandum of Understanding. Any person/s in possession of the aforesaid original document shall return the same to the Undersigned or lodge their claims with documentary evidence within Seven (07) days from the date of this notice.

Date: 02/03/2022 Place: Bangalore
Jayanth M. Pattanshetti
Advocate
102, Ground Floor, "Rams Infantry Manor", Infantry Road, Bangalore-560 001.
Ph: 25593195/25581469
Fax: 25550291.

OBITUARY

MAJOR VASANTH GANESH S
"MEG & CENTRE"
Passed away on 28th Feb 2022. We deeply mourn his sad demise and pray to the almighty to bestow peace upon the departed soul & give courage to his bereaved family.
Homage paid by : Commandent & all ranks of MEG & Centre

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id: crmd@cityunionbank.in, Phone: 0435-2432322, Fax: 0435-2431746

PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 - Sent on **01-02-2022** by Registered Post with acknowledgment due and the same was **returned by all.** Hence this

No.1) Mr. Mohammed Musadiq Pasha, S/o. Mr. Mohammed Mujamil Pasha, 2nd Block, Yarab Nagara Mohalla, Ramanagara - 562159. Also at, Mr. Mohammed Musadiq Pasha, S/o. Mr. Mohammed Mujamil Pasha, Nidagatta Village, Maddur Taluk, Mandya District, Ramanagara - 571433. No.2) Mrs. Ruksana Banu, W/o. Mr. Mohammed Musadiq Pasha, 2nd Block, Yarab Nagara, Mohalla, Ramanagara - 562159. Also at, Mrs. Ruksana Banu, W/o. Mr. Mohammed Musadiq Pasha, Nidagatta Village, Maddur Taluk, Mandya District, Ramanagara - 571433.

Dear Sir/ Madam

Sub: Loan account / Overdraft with **City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Ramanagara Branch** in the name of **Mr. Mohammed Musadiq Pasha.**

The Bank issued notice under the SARFAESI Act on **01-02-2022** calling upon Nos.1 & 2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501312030013450 is **Rs.41,72,019/- (Rupees Forty One Lakh Seventy Two Thousand and Nineteen Only),** Nos.1 & 2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080077995 is **Rs.14,19,604/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Nineteen Thousand Six Hundred and Four Only),** Nos.1 & 2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 512020010022563 is **Rs.22,12,048/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakh Twelve Thousand and Forty Eight Only)** as on **23-01-2022** with further interest for 501312030013450 at **11.50%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080077995 at **11.50%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a (not compounded), 512020010022563 at **11.50%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), with monthly rests from **24-01-2022** till the date of repayment. The Notice sent to you by Registered Post have been **returned by all.**

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon Nos.1 & 2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501312030013450 is **Rs.41,72,019/- (Rupees Forty One Lakh Seventy Two Thousand and Nineteen Only),** Nos.1 & 2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080077995 is **Rs.14,19,604/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Nineteen Thousand Six Hundred and Four Only),** Nos.1 & 2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 512020010022563 is **Rs.22,12,048/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakh Twelve Thousand and Forty Eight Only)** with further interest for 501312030013450 at **11.50%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080077995 at **11.50%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a (not compounded), 512020010022563 at **11.50%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), with monthly rests from **24-01-2022** till date of repayment within 60 days from the date of this notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the schedule hereunder. This Notice is published / issued without prejudice to any other right / remedy available to the Bank.

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A: (Property Owned by Mr. Mohammed Musadiq Pasha, S/o. Mr. Mohammed Mujamil Pasha)

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property Bearing Khatha No.309/55/115/21, measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 30 feet. Totally measuring 1,500 Sq.ft., Situated at Ward No.22, Kothipura, Ramanagara. Bounded on:- East by - 15 feet Road, West by - Property of Patel Venkatappa, North by - Site No.19, South by - Site No.23.

Schedule - B: (Property Owned by Mr. Mohammed Musadiq Pasha, S/o. Mr. Mohammed Mujamil Pasha)

All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing Khatha No.311/57/117/23, PID No.22-4-532-479, measuring East to West 15.240030 meters or 50 feet and North to South 9.144018 Meters or 30 feet Situated at Ward No.22, Kothipura 1st Stage, Ramanagara Town, Ramangara District. Bounded on:- East by - Road, West by - Property of Patel Venkatappa, North by - Site No.21, South by - Site No.25.

Schedule - C: (Movables Hypothecated to our Bank)

Raw Materials, Semi-Finished and Finished Goods Stored at 2nd Block, Yarab Nagar Mohalla, Ramanagara - 562159.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date: 25-02-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax : 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, Ph : 0435-2432322, Fax : 0435-2431746

PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 - Sent on **01-02-2022** by Registered Post with acknowledgement due and the same was **returned by All.** Hence this,

No.1) M/s. Royal Expert Services, No.32/A, Siddareddy Street, Prabhu Layout, Near Maruthi Layout, Kudlu V House, Opp Kalanikathen School, Kusan Road, Bangalore - 560068. No.2) Mr. Nagaraju, S/o. Rajappa, at No.3, Suresh Building, Siddareddy Street, Maruthi Layout, Kudlu Village, Bangalore - 560068. No.3) Mrs. Nagamani, W/o. Nagaraju, at No.3, Suresh Building, Siddareddy Street, Maruthi Layout, Kudlu Village, Bangalore - 560068.

Dear Sir/ Madam

Sub: Loan account / Overdraft with City Union Bank Limited, **Bengaluru - Koramangala Branch** in the name of **M/s. Royal Expert Services.**

The Bank issued notice under the SARFAESI Act on **01-02-2022** calling upon Nos.**1 to 3** of you jointly and severally towards the loan account 512120020004115 is **Rs.9,81,880/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Eighty One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty only)** as on **30-01-2022** with further interest for 512120020004115 at **15.00%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **31-01-2022** till the date of repayment. The notice sent to you by Registered Post have been **returned by all.**

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon Nos.**1 to 3** of you jointly and severally towards the loan account 512120020004115 is **Rs.9,81,880/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Eighty One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty only)** with further interest for 512120020004115 at **15.00%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **31-01-2022** till date of repayment within **60** days from the date of this notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the schedule hereunder. This Notice is published/issued without prejudice to any other right/remedy available to the Bank.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. Nagaraju, S/o. Rajappa)

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing Khatha No.37/2 situated at Veerabadrana Palya, Allahalli Road, New CMC No.707, Ward No.2, Doddaballapura Nagar, CMC, Bangalore Rural District. Measuring : East to West 80 Ft. and North to South 30 Ft. and bounded on : East by : 25 Ft. Road, West by : 25 Ft. Road, North by : Padmashali Krishnappa's Property, South by : Same Sy. Nos Property.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 25-02-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax : 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

INSTITUTE ON MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION (IMAGE)
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA)
CAD-3016 Siripur, BHUBANESWAR-751003, Odisha
Ph. - (0674) 2974145, E-mail : imagebbsr1999@gmail.com
No._784 /IMAGE, Dated : 28.02.2022

CORRIGENDUM and ADDENDUM NOTICE
With reference to REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE NO. 561/IMAGE DT. 10.02.2022 FOR SELECTION OF AGENCY FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU) UNDER RASHTRIYA KRISHI VIKAS YOJANA – REMUNERATIVE APPROACHES FOR AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTORS REJUVENATION (RKVY-RAFTAAR) SCHEME

The details of information relating to the Corrigendum and Addendum with reference to the RfP Notice No. 561/IMAGE DT. 10.02.2022 can be downloaded from www.agriodisha.nic.in / www.odisha.gov.in / https://agri.odisha.gov.in from dt. 02.04.2022.

Sd/-
OIPR- 01408/11/0001/2122 DIRECTOR, IMAGE

Mother breaks down on hearing of student's death

Olin Lasrado, who was speaking to TNIE, saw the news about the death of a Karnataka student and broke down. "My son somehow managed to get out of there... Those children are also like our own right? What if my child was there?" she asked, sobbing uncontrollably

● Dad told Naveen about Centre's plan to evacuate Indians ● Villagers upset with diplomatic efforts ● In touch with MEA, says Chief Minister Bommai

'BRING MY SON'S BODY BACK, I WANT TO SEE HIM'

G SUBHASH CHANDRA
@ Chalageri (Haveri dist)

A grief-stricken Shekhar Gyana Goudar (centre) who lost his son Naveen amidst the Russia-Ukraine conflict in Kharkiv, at his residence in Chalageri on Tuesday | EXPRESS

THE pain of Shekhar Gyana Goudar, father of Naveen -- who was killed in Russian shelling at Kharkiv in Ukraine on Tuesday, knew no bounds when he came to know that his son, with whom he spoke three times a day over WhatsApp, was no more. The shock was too much for Naveen's mother Vijayalakshmi, who fainted.

As the news of Naveen's death spread, friends and relatives started to gather at Shekhar Goudar's house and consoled the family.

Shekhar Goudar had only one question, "When are they getting my son's body back? I want to see him..."

Naveen (21) was killed when he stepped out of the metro underground tunnel, where he and his friends were taking shelter, to get food from a supermarket on Tuesday morning. The entire family used to make video calls to Naveen every day and Tuesday was no exception. Shekhar Goudar spoke to Naveen just minutes before his death. Soon after Naveen's friend informed Shekhar that Naveen was dead, he told his relatives to get in touch with ministry of external affairs officials, who confirmed the news later. He said, "My son had told me about the hardships faced by him and his friends. I used to infuse confidence in him, tell him about the developments in other parts of Ukraine and efforts being made by the government to evacuate Indians."

Naveen's uncle Ujjinappa Gyana Goudar said, "The government should have been serious and started evacuation in places where the war was intense. The government should have shifted Indians, especially students, from Kyiv and Kharkiv first. If it had been done, Naveen would be alive."

Shekhar Goudar said, "If professional education was affordable for the poor in this country, why would I have sent my son to Ukraine and lost him today?"

> *My son had told me about the hardships faced by him and his friends. I used to infuse confidence in him*
> Shekhar Gyana Goudar, Naveen's father

He said, "I had visited union minister Pralhad Joshi's house to request him to get back my son. I could not meet him and returned empty handed."

Venkatesh, whose son Praveen too is studying at Kharkiv, said, "Naveen and Praveen were together at the bunker and they never came out. But on Tuesday, Naveen got up early and went to buy some food and exchange currency at the Beketova supermarket along with another friend Yeshwanth. Yeshwanth returned as it was too cold outside. At 7.58 am, Naveen called another friend Amit and asked him to transfer some money as he was short of cash. As Naveen didn't return even after several minutes, they called him at 8.10 and a local resident, who picked up the call, told them that Naveen was dead and the body had been taken to the mortuary at a nearby hospital."

Shekhar Goudar, who worked as an engineer in Abu Dhabi, returned to India some years ago and was working at South India Paper Mills Limited at Nanjangud. Naveen did his primary and higher primary at St Lawrence School in Ranebennur and later joined his father at Nanjangud. He completed his high school and pre-university in Mysuru. He appeared for NEET, but did not make the cutoff and decided to pursue medicine at Kharkiv National Medical University.

Shekhar Goudar retired from service two years ago and has started farming in Chalageri.

Naveens' brother Harsha, who is pursuing his PhD in agriculture at GKVK in Bengaluru, said Naveen had secured 97 per cent in second PU, but could not do well in NEET, which forced him to secure admission in Ukraine. Naveen studied at Adarsha School in Debur village of Nanjangud taluk. He had visited his friends and the schools six months ago. He was the topper in SSLC for the school in 2015-16 and had secured 607 marks for 625. Prime Minister Narendra Modi called Shekar Goudar and told him to be bold and to lead the family from the front.

Former chief minister BS Yediyurappa, who visited the family, said arrangements are being made to bring the body back in three to four days.

'Govt should have focused on troubled regions'

G SUBHASH CHANDRA
@ Chalageri (Haveri dist)

CHALAGERI village near the toll on the Pune-Bengaluru national highway, was plunged into sorrow as news of Naveen's death spread. The villagers, who assembled near the boy's father Shekhar's house, felt that the Union Government should have focused on evacuating Indian nationals from most affected eastern parts of Ukraine alongside.

Attributing Naveen's death to "diplomatic negligence", they claimed that this led to students suffering and spending sleepless nights in bunkers. "At least now, the government should deploy more flights to airlift stranded Indians by holding talks with both the Ukrainian and Russian governments," said Siddalingappa.

The villagers and Naveen's family also vented their anger at Lok Sabha member Shivakumar Udasi and said that the MP didn't help in getting Naveen back. However, the anger died down after Shivakumar Udasi, along with Ranebennur MLA Arunkumar Pujar, arrived at Shekhar Gyana Goudar's residence and condoled the death of Naveen.

Friends, relatives and neighbours throng Naveen Gyana Goudar's house in Chalageri, Haveri district, on Tuesday | EXPRESS

Meanwhile, two other students from the village — Amith and Suman — are stuck in Kharkiv city but are said to be safe. Naveen had apparently called Amith to transfer some money to his account for purchasing food items as he had insufficient funds. However, within minutes, Naveen died.

Yeshwanth, who also hails from Karnataka, had accompanied Naveen to the supermarket, but returned to the bunker on seeing long queues. Later, when he called Naveen, a Ukrainian answered the phone and informed that Naveen was no more and that the body had been shifted to a mortuary.

'Only God can save our children'

Sridhar's son Suman and nephew Amith too were with Naveen in the same bunker. He told media persons, "The unfortunate death of Naveen has created panic among us. We are now praying to God for the safety of our children."

He alleged that MP Shivakumar Udasi did not answer his or his children's calls nor replied to messages sent by them. A memorandum given to Union minister Pralhad Joshi too did not get any positive response, he rued.

Efforts under way to bring back mortal remains: Bommai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday stated that Naveen Gyana Goudar, a native of Chalageri village in Haveri district, was killed in shelling when he came out of the metro station.

Another student from the same village was there at that time, but he is said to have returned, owing to intense cold.

Bommai spoke to Naveen's father Shekhar Goudar, a retired engineer with South Indian Paper Mills, over phone and consoled the family. Bommai said the family is known to him. Haveri is the CM's home district.

The CM informed them that they are in touch with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and are making all-out efforts to bring back his mortal remains at the earliest. The CM said he has also spoken to the Prime Minister's Office and provided all details after the PM wanted to speak to Naveen's father.

"Shekhar Goudar informed the Chief Minister that he had spoken with his son in the morning over phone, and he used to call up twice or thrice every day," said a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office.

Bommai said efforts to bring back Kannadigas from Ukraine are on. Two officials have been deployed at Mumbai and New Delhi to help Karnataka students arriving from Ukraine to reach their homes without any hassle, he added.

> Shekhar Goudar informed the CM that he had spoken with his son (Naveen) in the morning over phone, and he used to call up twice or thrice every day
> Statement from CMO

Nirani calls

Industries Minister Murugesh Nirani -- who learnt that a medical student from Bilagi is stranded in Ukraine – visited her house and met her parents. He also spoke with Sahana Patil, the student, over phone.

PM, CM speak to Naveen's father, console his family

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

JUST minutes before going out to buy snacks, Naveen spoke to his father Shekharappa Gyanagoudar, a retired engineer staying at the village, and said that he was safe. When he called on Monday, Naveen had said they were staying inside the metro station and they were cold and short of food and water.

One of Naveen's friends from Ranebennur, Praveen, who is at the same college studying first-year medicine, called up Naveen's parents and informed them about his death.

Confirming the first death of an Indian student in Ukraine, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi tweeted, "...The Ministry is in touch with his family." MEA officials spoke to Naveen's cousin and told him that Naveen had stepped out to buy groceries when he was killed in the shelling.

"We are not able to bring back the body now as it is a war zone. Naveen's mortal remains will be preserved and brought back later," said the MEA office. Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Naveen's father over phone and consoled the family. He said the government is making all efforts to bring the body back at the earliest. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, former chief minister BS Yediyurappa and other leaders spoke to Naveen's father.

Meanwhile, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said, "The circumstances of how Naveen died are not clear. It is very unfortunate. From what we understand from his friends they had come out to buy groceries. He (Naveen) was standing in a line when he was hit. It is not clear (at what happened). It's a conflict zone."

In a special press briefing by the Ministry of External Affairs on Tuesday evening, he said that MEA is in touch with Naveen's family and will bring back his mortal remains to India.

"His body is kept in the morgue," he added.

KODAGU STUDENT EVACUATED FROM UKRAINE

MADIKERI: A girl from Kodagu district studying in Ukraine has returned safely to Karnataka. She has requested the Indian Embassy to help numerous other students who are trapped in the war zone. Madeeha MG, daughter of Gafoor MM, is a resident of Gonikoppal in Kodagu. Madeeha is pursuing her first year MBBS at Uzhhorod National University in Ukraine. "I left for Uzhhorod on January 14. Uzhhord city is safe and there was no bombing in the city," Madeeha shared. She, however, felt a sense of fear, following the news surrounding the war. Madeeha said her university arranged for a bus to reach the Hungarian border. Once they crossed the border, Madeeha received support from the Indian Embassy
— Prajna GR

Many board trains to escape conflict

MAHESH M GOUDAR
@Bagalkot/Vijayapura

Indian students wait to board trains at a railway station in Kharkiv on Tuesday

HUNDREDS of students from Karnataka who were stranded in Ukrainian capital Kyiv, and the country's second largest city Kharkiv, heaved a sigh of relief since their long-stay in the bunkers ended on Tuesday, as they departed towards western Ukraine in trains. Earlier in the day, the Indian Embassy advised all Indian nationals, including students, to leave Kyiv on an urgent basis, by train or through other means available.

Following instructions from the Embassy, thousands of students from India, including those from Karnataka, began vacating places where they had taken shelter amid Russian advances, with their belongings, and boarded trains to the Hungary border, claimed students from Bagalkot who were stranded in Kharkiv.

Speaking to *TNIE*, Chetan Magi, a medical student hailing from Bagalkot, said, "I have boarded a train for the Hungarian border from Kharkiv. I am leaving on the instructions of the Indian Embassy. There are other students from Karnataka who are also heading towards western Ukraine. The local authorities are operating trains free of cost."

Kiran, another student, however, claimed: "I have no trust in the Indian Embassy, because it is not responding to our calls or messages. Many of us are without food for at least two days. We are forced to travel to the Hungarian border at our own peril."

Meanwhile, several students decided against leaving Kharkiv, after reports surfaced of a student from Haveri district dying amidst the conflict, as he made his way to the railway station after buying groceries, said Ashwat Gurav, a medical student from Bagalkot. "We had all packed up to leave for the railway station, but heavy shelling forced us back into the bunkers. We have been advised not to step out. The Embassy is not helping us in safely getting out of Kharkiv. The situation is really bad," said Shraddha Nayakar, another medical student from Vijayapura.

At least 40 students from Karnataka, who were stranded in Ukraine have returned to their hometowns in the last one week. However, none of the students from Bagalkot and Vijayapura have arrived in India.

SOME DK STUDENTS GET OUT IN THE NICK OF TIME

DIVYA CUTINHO @Mangaluru

WITH the Russia-Ukraine war intensifying, some students from Dakshina Kannada are desperate to head back home. Many students, along with Ukrainian citizens, who were taking shelter at metro stations in Kharkiv and Kyiv, were able to travel to railway stations through buses.

Anaina Anna, who was at a metro station in Kharkiv, had no idea till Tuesday evening whether she would get out. "They are using vacuum bombs now and there was no response from the embassy. So I decided to leave Kharkiv and when I contacted him, he asked me to go to his office and collect it when there was heavy bombing on the streets as he was scared to step out. I asked him whether I could send someone else to collect it, but he refused," she said.

Anaina left by train to Lviv without her passport.

"I think I may get a temporary passport. Around 100 people, including a few Indian students, left from the shelter for Lviv by train without their passports, from where we will be landing in Hungary," she said.

Meanwhile, Claton (19), a resident of Padil, left for Lviv from Kyiv by a flight along with other students, and from there to Uzhhorod. His mother Olin Lasrado narrated the tense situation her son was in while taking shelter in a bunker.

"He stayed in the bunker from February 24 to 28. He could not venture out even to go to the washroom or for food for almost 14 hours. The boys had to prepare food during the curfew. They were asked to stay awake and be alert in the bunker. Early of Monday, all of a sudden, they were asked to get ready with minimum clothes and available canned food and left for the railway station in buses," she said.

Meanwhile, she got information around 7.15 pm on Tuesday that Claton reached Uzhhorod.

Of the six Udupi students who are stranded in Ukraine, two are in bunkers, while the others have managed to reach different border checkpoints.

CM hits out at Congress, says rally only for political gains

ENS @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday hit out at the opposition Congress for taking out a padayatra demanding implementation of the Mekedatu project. The padayatra would not benefit the people of Bengaluru in any way and it instead would add to their woes, the CM said.

The CM said the Congress has put the people of Bengaluru to inconvenience for its political interests and it has no moral right to pressurise the government for implementation of the Mekedatu project.

Bommai said the Congress leaders could have held their protest at the Freedom Park, instead of creating traffic snarls by taking out the padayatra for three days in Bengaluru. Stating that the government is committed to implementing the Mekedatu project, the CM said the Congress leaders, who are staging protests now, had not taken any steps to implement the project when they were in power. They had not even bothered to prepare a Detailed Project Report for the project, he said.

"They have no moral right to blame us. We are committed to implement the project and we will definitely do it," he said.

CONG PADAYATRA REACHES BENGALURU

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @Bengaluru

THE second leg of the Congress' 'Namma Neeru, Namma Hakku' (Our water, Our right), which resumed on Sunday after ending abruptly in Ramanagara on January 13, when the third wave of the Covid-19 had peaked, reached the city on Tuesday morning, covering a distance of 15.8 km. It will culminate at the National College Ground in Basavanagudi in Bengaluru on March 3, after covering a total distance of 79.8 km.

KPCC president DK Shivakumar and former CM Siddaramaiah, are leading the padayatra, demanding implementation of the Mekedatu project to provide drinking water to Bengaluru.

The rally, which started from Poornima Convention Hall near Pattanagere Metro station on Mysuru Road, proceeded towards Nayandahalli, before heading towards Outer Ring Road. The Bengaluru Traffic Police had closed one carriageway to facilitate the rally, leading to chaos on Mysuru Road. Also, a large number of people from across Bengaluru had come by their vehicles to participate, which they had parked on the road side, causing further inconvenience.

KPCC president DK Shivakumar, surrounded by partyworkers and supporters, during the Mekedatu padayatra in Bengaluru on Tuesday | VINOD KUMAR T

Speaking to reporters here, Shivakumar claimed that apartment associations, factory owners, industrialists and common people had come forward to join the fight for water, cutting across party lines. As the padayatra entered Bengaluru, there was some commotion and traffic snarls in parts of South Bengaluru, including Mysuru Road, Banashankari, and surrounding areas. A large number of flexes, banners and cutouts were put up along the roadside, along with balloons and firecrackers at every junction en route.

A senior BBMP official said that at many places, flexes, banners and even cut-outs have been put up illegally. "The zonal officials concerned were told to remove illegal flexes and banners," he said.

'Several Congress, JDS leaders keen to join BJP'

BENGALURU: CM Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday claimed that many leaders from Congress and JDS will soon join the BJP. Over a dozen leaders from JDS and Congress, including JDS leader and former MLA Pilla Munishamappa, joined BJP on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, the CM said many leaders are in touch with them and they would join the BJP soon. BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel said the competition for the next CM candidate in Congress has started and DK Shivakumar is taking out the padayatra to sideline former CM Siddaramaiah.

With 467 ultra-high net worth individuals, Hyderabad is now home to the second highest ultra-wealthy population in the country, just behind Mumbai. In 2021, the net worth of these 467 ultra-high net worth individuals (UHNWIs) was over $30 million.

Stalin unveils scheme for students

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chennai

CHIEF Minister MK Stalin marked his 69th birthday on Tuesday by launching his dream project, "Naan Mudhalvan", which aims to enhance the skills of the State's student community and assist them in achieving their career goals.The scheme, which will be undertaken by the school education department, targets the honing of educational skills, knowledge, talent, and efficiency of 10 lakh youth every year.

Launching the scheme, Stalin said the initiative will come under his direct supervision, and efforts will be made to hone the skills of every individual for specific sectors.

"It is easy to say that I am the first. But being the first of all is not an easy task. You need to prepare yourself for it. You need to have a clear idea of what your unique talents are," he said, explaining the thought behind the scheme.

A web portal (naanmudhalvan.tnschools.gov.in) and logo for the scheme were also launched on the day. The portal will provide information on higher education courses and careers that students in Class 9-12 can evaluate and choose to pursue.

The scheme will also help in identifying the unique talents of every student

Had there been grievances from the MPs, it should have been brought to my notice so that corrective measures could be initiated
K Sudhakaran, Kerala Congress president

Kerala Cong chief threatens to quit over party drama

K Sudhakaran's remark exposes the latest faultlines within the organisation

CYNTHIA CHANDRAN @T'Puram

IN a major snub to K Sudhakaran, the Congress high command intervened at the last minute restraining him from announcing the reorganisation of the district committees. An enraged state Congress president threatened to resign on Tuesday, exposing the new faultline that has formed in the state Congress with Sudhakaran on one side and AICC General Secretary K C Venugopal and Leader of Opposition V D Satheesan on the other.

On Tuesday, Congress national general secretary Tariq Anwar, who is in charge of Kerala, directed Sudhakaran to put the announcement of the new office-bearers at the district level on hold. Sudhakaran was completely unaware of the late developments until Anwar told him that three MPs had levelled complaints against the proposed list which he had finalised after holding discussions for more than 45 days with all stakeholders.

The twist in tale prompted Sudhakaran to suspect the role of Venugopal and Satheesan who he believed had connived with MPs Benny Behanan, M K Raghavan and T N Prathapan for coming up with tailor-made complaints to upset the organisational revamp plan.

Sudhakaran wrote a strongly worded letter to the national leadership, detailing the "transparent and impartial process" he had followed to finalise the names. The MPs are learnt to have told the central leadership that the proposed office-bearers in their districts concerned are so weak that their appointment may even lead to losing the seats in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Sudhakaran expressed "strong displeasure" over the "undemocratic" way in which the high command intervened in the issue. Sudhakaran even threatened relinquish the post as he does not want to cling on if there is no operational freedom. "Had there been grievances from the MPs, that should have been brought to my notice so that corrective measures could be initiated," Sudhakaran wrote.

He had asked the state general secretaries in charge of various districts to come up with a panel of names to be considered for district committees and for the posts of block presidents.

BJD WINS 766 OF 852 ZONES IN ZP POLLS, OPPN WIPED OUT

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bhubaneswar

THE ruling BJD has been able to almost wipe out the Opposition BJP and Congress in rural Odisha as the final results of the zilla parishad (ZP) zones announced by the State Election Commission (SEC) on Sunday indicated.

The ruling BJD won from 766 ZP zones out of the total 852 in the elections that were held in five phases. The party polled more than 1.10 crore votes out of more than 2.10 crore total valid votes. For the first time, the vote percentage of the party crossed 50 per cent in the rural elections. The ruling BJD won 290 more ZP zones compared to its tally of 476 ZP zones in the 2017 panchayat elections.

As per the data released by the SEC, the ruling BJD's vote share was 52.73 per cent in the ZP elections, way ahead of the 30.07 per cent and 13.57 per cent of the BJP and Congress respectively. The BJD made a jump of about nine per cent votes this time compared to the 2017 elections.

Though the BJP's tally of seats plunged to 42 from 297 in the ZP elections, the party polled more than 63 lakh votes. The vote share of the party also decreased by around three per cent this time. Presence of Congress in the rural areas shrank further this time as the party polled only 28.5 lakh votes.

The drop in the vote share for the party was around three percent.

Earlier in the day, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik thanked the people of Odisha for their overwhelming support in the panchayat elections. He also lauded the efforts of all party workers for whose dedication the party could win. The verdict of the people in favour of the BJD has strengthened the commitment of the party to serve the people, he added.

'State, varsity obligated to regularise services'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

OBSERVING that the State Government and Bangalore University cannot have a hands-off approach to their obligation towards the demand of some employees for regularisation of services, the Karnataka High Court directed them to consider the claim within four months.

The petitioners — over 50 employees including 20 Group-D workers — have completed service in the university ranging from 20 to 25 years and are all aged between 43 and 57 years.

Justice M Nagaprasanna directed the state government to consider the university's proposal, sent on September 12, 2019, and pass appropriate orders in accordance with law, bearing in mind the observations of the court.

The university should not shirk its responsibility of considering the cases of the petitioners for regularisation of services in the event the State Government leaves it to the discretion of the university, the judge noted.

"In my considered view, if the claim of the petitioners for regularisation is not considered, it would be leaving such employees in the lurch after having extracted work from them for close to 24 years. Their services have been utilised in their energetic youth, have travelled this far and are at this age. If they are not considered for regularisation now, it would amount to exploitation of such labour by the university, under Article 12 of the Constitution. It is not the university that is now wanting to deny the benefit of regularisation, but the State Government, on an irrelevant plea of financial burden of 1.36 crore", Justice Nagaprasanna observed.

The judge clarified that, in the event of the university passing orders of regularisation, the petitioners shall not be entitled to count their services after completion of 10 years from the respective dates of their initial engagement for the purpose of determination of all other service conditions and every terminal benefit.

The judge noted that in their heydays, the petitioners have toiled for the university on receiving even paltry sums as salary. If their cases are not considered at this juncture, it would be an arbitrary action, violative of Article 14 of the Constitution and would result in leaving the employees in the lurch.

The buoyancy of hope that the petitioners have all along carried with them should not again be turned by the State and University into fatigue of despair, the judge added.

Case booked against teen activist for hate speech on hijab issue

MAHESH M GOUDAR @Vijayapura

AFTER a video of a 19-year-old girl, a member of Bajrang Dal, openly calling for genocide against Muslims at a recent protest in Vijayapura, sparking an outrage, the district police have registered a suo motu case against the teenager.

Pooja Veerashetty landed in trouble for allegedly making the inflammatory speech during the protest organised by various Hindu outfits on February 23, condemning the murder of Hindu activist Harsha of Shivamogga in the district.

Four days after the incident and after outrage against the teenager on social media and by local Muslims, the Gol Gumbaz police on February 27 registered a case under Sections 295 (A), 505(2) and 506 of IPC for deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings and creating or promoting enmity, hatred or ill-will between classes and criminal intimidation against Pooja, a graduate student.

Pooja had given the call for genocide of Muslims while referring to the Hijab controversy. She said Hindu outfits will not allow Hindustan to become a hijab nation. She delivered the speech in the presence of Additional SP SP Ram L Arasidi and Additional Deputy Commissioner Ramesh Kalasad, who had arrived at the protest site to receive a memorandum from the Hindu outfits and seers of various mutts.

On the delay in filing the case against Pooja, SP HD Anand Kumar said, "We did not have any details about the teenager. We were told that she was a minor and the procedure in that case would be different. During the preliminary inquiry, we came to know of her identity and immediately registered a suo motu case."

Asked whether there was any political pressure on the police to file a case, he said, "There was no pressure. I will also not reveal whether the accused has been arrested or not."

The district police booked a case against Bajrang Dal activist Pooja Veerashetty (extreme left with mic) for hate speech in Vijayapura | EXPRESS

CRIME PATROL

Two killed as goods auto topples

Bengaluru: Two labourers were killed on the spot while two others sustained injuries after a speeding goods auto, loaded with vegetables, turned turtle near the CID Office Junction on Palace Road on Monday night. The deceased are Gopala Reddy (48) and Venkat Reddy (30) of Ananthapura in Andhra Pradesh. The injured have been admitted to Victoria Hospital and they are said to be out of danger. A senior police officer said the goods auto was heading towards KR Market around 11.30 pm when it hit a road median and toppled over. The driver was speeding and lost control over the vehicle, the officer said. Passersby alerted the Cubbon Park traffic police. ENS

Man held for harassing women

Bengaluru: Bagalagunte police have arrested a 34-year-old man for sexually harassing women on social media and sending obscene photos to their mobile phones. The accused, Darling Chadru alias Chandu, is a resident of Margondahalli, and is unemployed. A senior police officer said Chandru used to work in a garment factory and was sacked after he misbehaved with the women staff. Later, he started to befriend women on social media and seek sexual favours. When they objected, he used upload their their photos and contact number on dating sites with a message that they are offering escort services. Unable to bear the harassment, one of the victims had filed a complaint. ENS

LUCKY THIS TIME

'3rd wave didn't affect economy'

CONTINUED FROM P1

PROF Sankarshan Basu from IIM Bangalore said, "The rise in GST collections in Karnataka from February 2021 to February 2022 indicates the impact of a very limited (even no) lockdown during the second wave coming on the back of a complete lockdown the previous year (2020-21). The near-static levels between November 2021 and February 2022 indicates that the third wave did not allow any major growth to happen. The good news is that it has not really pegged it back and if all is well, industrial and economic output going forward should be on the upswing. The same is broadly replicated in the pan-India figures as well."

BT Manohar, Chairman, GST Committee, FKCCI, said, "The collections for February are encouraging, thanks to the relief from Covid pandemic. People who were away from work are returning back to offices, enforcement is better and consumption of fuels has reasonably increased because of cuts in levies and duties by both the state and Centre among other trends. The third wave of the pandemic has not adversely affected the economy. Real estate is picking up and tax payer compliance is also another factor for the rise."

STATE BANK OF INDIA
RETAIL ASSETS CENTRAL PROCESSING CENTRE (RACPC) – II, KORAMANGALA, No. 12, 80 ft Road, 7th Main, 3rd Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru -560 034.
Tel: 080 -25943803, Fax: 080 -25943800, E mail: maintracpc2.ban@sbi.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANACIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002 (HEREINAFTER CALLED 'ACT')

A Notice is hereby given that the below mentioned Borrowers have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loan facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses, but they have been returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

1) Name and address of the Borrower: To, 1. Mrs. Anu Shyamsundar W/o Sounak Sen Barat, & **2. Mr. Sounak Sen Barat** S/o Mr. Suprathik Sen Barat **Both at:** Flat No. 201, Rock Residency, No.20/1, Muniyappa Garden, Doppanahalli Near 100 Ft Road, Indranagar, Bangalore-560038. **Also at:** Flat No.208, Windsor Court Apartments, No.17, Millers Road, Bangalore-560046.
Account No: HTL.31122337323/10508/HL/151
Outstanding Loan Amount:Rs. 37,31,439/-(Rupees Thirty Seven Lakhs Thirty One Thousand Four Hundred and Thirty Nine only) as on **31.01.2022** and you are also liable to pay future interest from **01.02.2022** at contractual rate on the aforesaid amount together with incidental expenses, cost, charges etc.
NPA Date: 29.01.2022 **Demand Notice Date: 04.02.2022**

Description of the Immovable Properties: Schedule 'A' Property: All that part and parcel of theimmovableproperty bearing Sy. No. 36/1, 36/2 (old No.1/1)and 20 Situated at Muniyappa Garden, Dookanahalli, Ward No.72, now within the jurisdiction of BMP **measuring East to West** on the Eastern side 68 feet and on the Western side 66 feet and **North to South** on Northern side 32 feet 6 inches and on Southern side 32 feet 6 inches and property bearing No.20 **measuring East to West** on the **Eastern side** 58 feet 6 inches and on the **Western side** 60 feet and **North to South** on **Northern side** 61 feet and on **Southern side** 44 feet 6 inches plus 32 feet 6 inches or 77 feet in all the composite property measures a total extent of 6265.75 Sq.ft or 582.32 Sq.Mtrs, and **bounded on the: East by:** Private Property, **West by:** Private Property, **North by:** M.Mariswamappa's Property, South by: Road,
Schedule 'B' Property: An undivided share in the land of the schedule 'A' property equivalent to 877.205 Sq.ft, with all rights, title and interest and ownership of the land in Schedule 'A' property.
Schedule 'C' Property: Flat bearing No. 201 in 2nd Floor of the building known as "ROCK RESIDENCY" with SBA 1950 Sq ft & UDS 877.205 Sq ft with two covered car parking space of the property bearing No.36/1 36/2 (old No.1/1) and 20, situated at Muniyappa Garden, Dookanahlli, Ward No.72,Bangalore.

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower(s) and or their Guarantor(s) (whenever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.You are also put on notice that in terms of sub-section 13 of Section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed in Schedule "C" Part II of this notice without obtaining written consent of the Bank.

Date : 01.03.2022 **Sd/- Authorised Officer & Chief Manager**
Place: Bangalore **State Bank of India**

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
Corporate Office : 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400069, Maharashtra.
Malleshwaram Branch : No.16/12, Nagarathna Nilaya , 1st Floor, st A Cross, 2nd Main, 150 Feet Ring Road, Nandhini Layout 2nd Block, Opposite to RajKumar Smarak / Nr Kanteerva studio, Bangalore - 560096, (Karnataka)
Registered Office Cum Zonal : No. 3, JVT Towers, 1st and 2nd Floor, 8th A Main Road, S.R Nagar, Bengaluru 560027 (Karnataka), A.O : **Vijayalakshmi B K**, Mob : **9986698893.**

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE

Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited under the **Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002** for the recovery of amount due from borrower/s, offers are invited by the undersigned in sealed covers for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the physical possession, on **'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis',** Particulars of which are given below :-

Sl No.	Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price (RP)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)
1.	**Appl No : V0113329 (Malleshwaram Branch)** **Yashaswini Builders Pvt Ltd** (Borrower) **Mahesh Gurjapalli** (1st Co-Borrower) **Jhansi Naga Jothi** (2nd Co-Borrower)	12-09-2017 ₹ 76,32,781.00	All that part and parcel of Site Bearing House List No.1680, Plot measuring 3200 sft along with residential duplex building (GF+FF) measuring 4126 sft, Property Bearing Katha No.40 and 41, (Sites Bearing Nos.40/41) Formed in Converted land Formerly Sy No.80, Near Amruthahalli police station, Popularly called as Krishna Layout, Dasarahalli Village, K R Pura Hobli, Bangalore South taluk, Now Bangalore East taluk and Measuring East To West 80 ft, North to South 40 ft and Bounded on : Bounded : **East Side By :** 30 Feet Road, **West Side By :** 30 feet Road, **North Side By :** Private Property & Road and **South Side By :** Property Bearing Nos.39 & 42.	₹ 2,19,29,225.00 (Rupees Two Crore Nineteen Lakhs Twenty Nine Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Five Only)	₹ 21,92,923.00 (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Ninety Two Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Three Only)

1. **Last Date of Submission of Sealed Bid/ Offer** in the prescribed tender forms along with EMD and KYC is **01.04.2022**. within 5:00 PM at the Branch Office address mentioned herein above. Tenders that are not filled up or tenders received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.
2. **Date of Opening of the Bid/Offer (Auction Date)** for Property is **02.04.2022.** at the above mentioned branch office address at 3:00 PM. The tender will be opened in the presence of the Authorised Officer.
3. The notice is hereby given to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s, to remain present personally at the time of sale and they can bring the intending buyers/purchasers for purchasing the immovable property as described herein above, as per the particulars of Terms and Conditions of Sale.
4. **30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002 is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the above described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physcial possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" and to pay the amount due to Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd., in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped.**
5. The immovable property will be sold to the highest tenderer. However, the Authorised Officer reserves the absolute discretion to allow inter se bidding, if deemed necessary. The Property as mentioned will not be sold below Reserve Price.
6. **AHFL is not responsible for any liabilities whatsoever pending upon the property as mentioned above. The Property shall be auctioned on 'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis'.**
7. The Demand Draft Should be made in favor of **'Aadhar Housing Finance Limited' Only.**
8. The detail terms and conditions of the auction sale are incorporated in the prescribed tender form. Tender forms are available at the above mentioned Branch office. Authorised officer reserve the rights to extend the date of tender or change the terms & conditions of bidding. For further details & other terms & conditions of bidding please visit our branch and website : **www.aadharhousing.com**
For further details, contact the Authorised Officer, at the above mentioned Office address.

Place : Malleshwaram **Authorised Officer**
Date : 02.03.2022 **Aadhar Housing Finance Limited**

OPPORTUNITIES

General

Kerala State Film Development Corporation Ltd.
Chalachitra Kalabhavan, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 014
Ph: 0471 2325325 Email: ksfdcltd@gmail.com, Website: www.ksfdc.in

No:986/E2/22/KSFDC 25.02.2022

WANTED

Applications are invited from qualified professionals for empanelling as Conformists in DI suit of Chitranjali Studio, KSFDC.
For details visit our website (www.ksfdc.in). Last date 19/03/2022 at 3.00 PM

Sd/-
Managing Director

Educational

Al-Ameen College Edathala, Aluva 683 564
Aided Institution-Re Accredited by NAAC with A Grade (CGPA-3.15)
(Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala)
Website : www.alameencollege.org Email : alameencollege@gmail.com
PH : 0484-2836221, 2837561
MANAGED BY AL AMEEN EDUCATIONAL TRUST,EDAPPALLY

Al.A/Estt/TS/01/2022 Date: 26.02.2022
Applications are invited for the following permanent posts at Al-Ameen College, Edathala, Aluva

Subject	Open	Persons with Benchmark Disability (Ref:GO(MS)No.96/2021/HEdn Dtd. 15.02.21)
Mathematics	2	
Commerce		1

Age, Qualification and Scale of pay as perscribed by the rules & regulations of UGC/State Govt./Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. Application Form can be downloaded from the college website or can be had from the college office on all working days. Duly filled in application form and copies of all requied documents along with a payment of Rs. 1000/- in cash or by demand Draft as application fee, drawn in favour of "Al Ameen College, Edathala" payable at SBI, Asokapuram, should reach the college office within 30 days from the date of this notification.

Manager

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING
INDULGE Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

EDITORIAL

If wars can be started with lies, they can be stopped by truth

Julian Assange

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

ATTEND THE BUDGET SESSION, LEND CREDENCE TO ASSEMBLY

The Budget session of the Andhra Pradesh State Legislature is set to begin on 7 March and it is a cliché to say that it is likely to be stormy, except, in this case, it may not. There is a reason for this. The former chief minister and the main opposition TDP leader N Chandrababu Naidu had vowed not to enter the Assembly until he ascended the throne again after alleged insulting remarks made against his wife during the last session by some ruling YSRC members. Uncharacteristically, Naidu had gone on to weep on live TV.

It was indeed a sad sight to see a leader of his stature break down in the manner that he did. In the aftermath, while the YSRC leaders denied making derogatory comments, he received support from almost all quarters—showing that indecency has no place in the August House. Against this backdrop, Naidu should reconsider his decision and attend the session in public interest. After all, the YSRC has an overwhelming majority and the TDP, the only opposition in the House, has only around 20 members. As such, Naidu's presence lends weight to the proceedings as much as the presence of Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy. This particular session is important in more ways than one. First up, is the issue of the dire financial condition of the state with debt said to be hovering near ₹6 lakh crore. Secondly, key legislations like the creation of new districts and even a revised three-capitals bill may be tabled. It would be a gross injustice to the people at large if critical issues like these are passed without due deliberation. Naidu, who found fault with Jagan for boycotting the Assembly when the former was in power, should understand that the same logic applies to him too. If he were to stick to his vow, it is very likely that a good number of the TDP legislators will give the session a miss.

The TDP alleges that the YSRC government is seeking to undermine institutions. Isn't boycotting the Assembly undermining our constitutional process? It is time for the former chief minister to assume the mantle of a statesman and not confine himself to the usual political bickering.

IOC ACTION OK, BUT NEEDS CONSISTENCY

On Monday, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) urged sports federations across the globe to shut the door on Russian and Belarusian participation across all events, be it athletes or officials. On the face of it, this sounds a bit harsh because athletes and/or officials may not have much to do with the actions of the government. It's not like Daniil Medvedev, the newly crowned men's world No 1 in tennis, signed off the order to invade Ukraine. The world's greatest leaders understand the power sports wields. Sporting powerhouses like the US, Russia and China very well know the dominant role sports plays in geo-politics. Sports in a way is like the alter-ego that marks the ebb and flow of a nation. Whether or not sanctions are effective, there is not much evidence. But yes, players do suffer.

However, there is historical precedence of such actions. When war had first started in the Balkans in 1992, heavy sanctions were placed on Yugoslavia. As the bombings in Sarajevo intensified, sports bodies moved quickly to lock Yugoslavian athletes from the world's arenas. They were banned from competing at the 1992 Euros. At the Olympics later that year, they competed under the 'Independent Olympic Participants' banner. It's ultimately unfair on the sportspersons—several of whom have publicly come out against Russia's actions last week—but sporting federations have previously resorted to blanket bans.

Going forward, the onus will be on the IOC, FIFA and other sporting bodies to be more accountable and egalitarian in its approach. Ironically, Russia is one of the few countries that's hosted both the Olympics (Winter and Summer), a football World Cup and World Championships in athletics and swimming (two of the Summer Games' mother sports) within the last 10 years. And the country had hosted all of these events after the Russian occupation in Georgia in 2008. Several other nations are involved in waging a war in other countries (Yemen and Somalia) right now. What about Iraq? War is devastating. Yet there were occasions when the IOC or FIFA was selective in its approach. Perhaps after this, they would be under pressure to act every time war rages on.

The click-and-mortar business has now given way to the click-and-click model, where everything is virtual and very little is physical

THE ENTRY OF ELECTRONIC ESCAPISM

HARISH BIJOOR

Brand Guru & Founder, Harish Bijoor Consults

SOUMYADIP SINHA

We live in a world divided by two kinds of businesses. One is the physical avatar as we knew it in the old days, and the other is the digital and virtual businesses of today.

The physical business, for instance, is the one that grows coffee in the highlands of Coorg investing months of time, energy and effort, gets the produce processed at specialised coffee-curing works, roasts it to perfection under the keen eye of a roaster and is ground and packaged. This packaged coffee is then pushed from the gut of the growing and manufacturing area into the vast hinterland of the consumption market, through intermediaries of every kind. The product finally reaches retail shelves, and, you and I reach out and buy a pack to re-create that coffee-making experience at home. From the gut of the growing area to the gut of the consumer, this is a physical business that happens over time and consumes sheer labour.

Every business that focuses on the physical offering at hand is an intense one that uses the classical resources of land, labour and capital to produce what is an offer to cherish. This model is all we knew, and many of us called it the brick-and-mortar business. And then the times moved on. The click-and-mortar businesses happened with the entry of technologies of the computer and internet kind. Early businesses of these kinds were a cusp of the virtual and the physical. The click-and-mortar business has now given way to the click-and-click model of business, where everything is virtual and very little is physical.

A recent research exercise I carried out in 17 cities in urban India tells us that an average city dweller spends as much as one hour 29 minutes watching an OTT channel offering, 51 minutes on Zoom or web calls, 31 minutes on WhatsApp, 14 minutes on emails, six minutes on Instagram, two minutes on Twitter and eight minutes on Facebook. And that's a whole lot of minutes for sure. Growing by the minute.

If you look back, in the beginning, it was 100% physical, and over the years, the composition of businesses and customer involvement has changed. The 50:50 cusp business of the acute click-and-mortar model is today progressively nudging the realm of the 100% virtual. There are business models that generate revenue with just no physical use or interaction, as we defined it in the past.

To be fair to the new business models that we often critique to be hollow, even in the old days gone by, there was a quotient of the virtual in conceptual services that we did not understand very well those days. If I was selling coffee, it was a physical offering I bought and consumed, but if I was buying a life insurance policy, I was actually purchasing paper. And I was actually buying into the notion that I might die, sooner than later. I was also paying a hefty premium to keep comfort in the fact that I had a life cover if something happened to me; a life cover that could be endowed to my survivors. The life insurance policy was sure a virtual product or a service. Long before we called it that; and we lived with it.

Today, even as I type this article, the virtual business format is the one that rules in many ways. Valuations of companies that do the virtual business rule at dizzyingly high levels. The market capitalisation of the online and virtual companies astonish the boards and management of physical ones that make tyres and tampons alike. Consumer involvement with companies that offer the virtual is deep and abiding, as opposed to those that struggle in the physical market of goods and services with a disloyal, promiscuous and relatively shallow format of involvement.

The remunerative future ahead in the world of business seems to point the way to the virtual format altogether. The signs are all stacked in one direction: the virtual. We are approaching a time, with the metaverse and the multiverse ahead, when literally everything that you ever wanted to do can be done in the virtual format of living, thriving and dying. Everything you could do physically seems to have a mirror image possibility of being able to do virtually. And guess what, what you do in virtual space remains in virtual space. What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas!

> We are approaching a time, with the metaverse and the multiverse ahead, when everything that you wanted to do can be done in the virtual format. Everything you could do physically seems to have a mirror image possibility of being able to do virtually

My excitement of the online format has a frivolous caveat though, and that caveat is to say that all this will hold true if all the virtual frenzy we see around in our lives is not a bubble. A big bubble that just might burst, sometime or the other.

On a completely serious note though, I think it is time for us to do a quick audit of what we do physically and what we do virtually. Time to audit everything that does not require a physical presence, a physical piece of work, some degree of sweat, and possibly something totally tactile as we defined it to be in the yesteryears.

The world of work is today divided. How much of what are you? There are people who work physically in the field, in the factory, in sales and marketing, in the terrain of HR, logistics, manufacturing, and more. And then there are people who work with their minds and minds alone. There is very little bodywork to it. Every piece of work that can be handled through the remote telephone and internet lines, through virtual meetings and totally in cyberspace, metaverse-enabled, is already here.

Over a period of time, our world has learned to work less and enjoy itself more. Hard and repetitive work has been automated to date literally in every sphere, be it in modern agriculture, modern production, modern medicare or modern whatever. Man is today focusing more on the fun aspects, and the ways to escape the tiring and the tiresome. Boring and hard work is progressively being replaced by what I call "eEscapism".

The electronic format of doing work is getting men to spend that much more time on business formats that are online, and entertainment formats that are about OTT, gaming, e-sports and more. Everything is "eEscapism". Every form of this business format is doing well as of date. Investors are pouring big money into this format, and the pandemic pain of being locked in has fast-tracked market adoption of everything that is distant and virtual.

If I am to look at Apple to be one of the leading digital companies that has been at the cusp of the physical and digital in the beginning, and has progressively moved towards the virtual, the revenue numbers tell the story. The quarterly sales revenue of Apple ($124 billion) equals the revenue of India's top 11 companies in terms of revenue from physical space, Reliance, Indian Oil Corporation, ONGC, Bharat Petroleum, SBI and six more included. Telling numbers. A telling tale!

(harishbijoor@hotmail.com)

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF IN RUSSIA-UKRAINE CRISIS

GAURAV DAGA

Associate Vice President at Guidance, Government of Tamil Nadu

Two things are clear from the way Vladimir Putin has acted in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine crisis. First, Putin is not a communist. While he harps on restoring the glory of the Soviet Union, he, at the same time, criticises it for creating constituent republics, such as Ukraine. Second, Putin's territorial politics is much more nuanced than it appears on the surface. For instance, Ukraine's tête-a-tête with the NATO may irk Russia and go against Moscow's security interest, but one can better understand Putin's current modus operandi from history.

In the late 1930s, Hitler had threatened to unleash war in Europe unless Sudetenland, an area of Czechoslovakia with a German ethnic majority, was surrendered to Germany. In September 1938, leaders of the UK, France, and Italy signed the Munich agreement with Germany agreeing to Hitler's proposal, in exchange for peace in Europe.

While Russia did not explicitly threaten to unleash war in Europe unless Donetsk and Luhansk, an area of Ukraine with a Russian ethnic majority are surrendered to Moscow, it tried the Hitler strategy by seeking what it wants from the international community without going to war.

The meetings held with Macron and Scholz in early February was an attempt by the world leaders hoping there will be a 'Munich moment' with Russia—close but no cigar.

Now that we know Russia has sent troops to the Ukrainian territory, Putin tried to pull a Munich bluff like how Germany did with Europe in the early 1940s.

It is clear that Putin is no Hitler nor today's Russia is not the 1940s Germany, but he took a clue from the latter in adopting an open diplomacy cum troops-at-standby strategy to negotiate with the West. The element of surprise, as seen in mid-February, was crucial to Putin's strategy if a Munich was to be pulled off.

While the lesson for the West from the post-Munich agreement was that peace cannot be bought through appeasement, it is yet to understand that peace, in this ongoing case, cannot be bought through sanctions either.

Eight years ago, when Russia annexed Crimea, sanctions were imposed and the West condemned the assault. Today again, as the West rolls out a similar arsenal of economic sanctions, there is little understanding that these actions may not work. For instance, the gas supplies to Europe, after Crimea was annexed, continued to flow except for a few months and with limited disruptions. Further, the shock and awe style of sanction will hurt Europe equally as it intends to do for Russia. Sanctions, as we know, work best when it forces the other to change its behaviour, but in Russia's case, such chances are slim. China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson too has argued that "sanctions have never been a fundamental and effective way to solve problems".

> The upside for China for supporting Moscow would be that Russia will return the favour by supporting Beijing's territorial claims or in enabling a counter global governance architecture. This is not to say China will unliterally support Russia, as Beijing too will have to walk a tight rope, it can however gain an ally in geopolitical issues

Even if the sanctions were to hurt Russia, the recently concluded joint statement with China gives us a hint that to alleviate the economic effects, Beijing could step up. As Jude Blanchette and Bonny Lin have argued in the Foreign Affairs piece, "Beijing's purchase of more Russian energy and the increased use of the Chinese renminbi (instead of the US dollar) for bilateral transactions could insulate Russia from US sanctions". Further, the upside for China would be that Russia will return the favour by supporting the former's territorial claims or in enabling a counter global governance architecture. This is not to say China will unliterally support Russia, as Beijing too will have to walk a tight rope, it can however gain an ally in geopolitical issues.

Both from an economic and diplomatic standpoint, there are slim chances that the punitive actions taken by the West could hurt Russia deeply. The Asian geopolitical constellations can keep the Russian economy in a relatively stable position and keep their markets afloat. From a geopolitical standpoint, Russia is willing to pay the price for its interest in Ukraine, even if militarily. It is also clear that the US and EU will not directly defend Ukraine on foot or offer collective security under the umbrella of the NATO. What might be a 'politics of asymmetry' for Ukraine, such asymmetry works for Russia as there will be no zero-sum game. What remains to be seen is how long will the 'strange, vague and bleak' nature of battle continue and how 'war and peace' be achieved.

(Views are personal)
(gauravdaga@ymail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Sanctions wouldn't work

This is with reference to *UN roasts Putin, Crimea is key* (March 1). As the Russia-Ukraine conflict enters the sixth day, leaders are still clueless on how to bring the crisis to a halt. The West seems adamant on their stand and Putin is sticking to his unrealistic demands. It is sad to note how Moscow could disregard the international rules and infringe on another country's sovereignty despite trying to portray itself as a communist country. One has little hope that the sanctions would work on Moscow.

Ashwin P Kumar, Kochi

Ensure students' safety

This is with reference to *Only Putin can assure safety of students: Ukraine envoy* (March 1). The Ukrainian Ambassador's request to New Delhi to pressurise Russia to stop the war and thereby ensure the safety of Indian students seems like a desperate act. It is heart-wrenching to read about the students who have faced harassment by the locals and are frantically searching for a way to return to their homeland. India should explore all possible options to make sure that her subjects return safely to the country.

Sai Durgaprasad, Hyderabad

Unrealistic expectation

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has exhorted the private sector to ensure that Indian students do not go abroad to study medical courses. Why don't the government think of investing capital in the sector to provide quality education at a nominal cost? It will benefit society to a great extent. Hasn't the government got resources? Counting on the private sector to discourage students from going to foreign countries is very unrealistic. I know a few schools in the private sector that use their fees to pay their recurring expenses and maintain little or no surplus. I always wonder at their commitment. Will the private players in the medical sector do it? The answer cannot be in the affirmative.

S Ramakrishnasayee, Chennai

Time for climate action

It is shocking to see that the entire world is disregarding the obvious warnings of climate change. With half of humanity under threat, as pointed by the recent IPCC report, the world should redouble its efforts to address the challenges posed by climate change.

Rameshwar S, Mangaluru

India is at high risk

This is with reference to *Climate change to hit India's food bowl* (March 1). Despite the developing and least developed countries contributing the minimum per capita GHGs, they are at the receiving end of climate change impacts. India is no exception, her coastlines are at risk and her food production is expected to fall considerably. If things progress in the business as usual scenario, there would be no surprises if future conflicts were fired by water scarcity and pollution.

Rahul Sreedharan, T'puram

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Akhilesh Yadav @yadavakhilesh
Today a family lost its child due to the laxity of the BJP govt. Public is watching, ministers have time to campaign in elections but not to save the Indians!

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi
By increasing the price of LPG once again, the Modi government has made it clear that they have nothing to do with the sufferings of the common people.

Mahua Moitra @MahuaMoitra
India has always stood for non-aggression & rejection of trans-border invasion. It does not suit us to be silent in face of Russia's naked aggression.

Some students incommunicable in Ukraine

Friends and family members say they have lost contact for the last few days, fear for their safety in conflict zone

ANKITA UPADHYAY @New Delhi

THE students stuck in Ukraine have claimed that many of their friends from different universities have gone 'missing' and they have been unable to contact them. Some families back in India have also lost touch with their children pursuing MBBS in Ukraine.

Ashita Bhardwaj, a student of Donestk National Medical University, is missing since two days. According to her elder sister, who is a teacher by profession in Delhi, Ashita could not be contacted, nor did she get in touch with her family.

"She was trying to reach the Poland border but we have not been able to track her," the elder sister added.

According to Sahil Lathwal, a student at Kharkiv National Medical University, several students from his university have gone missing and their college WhatsApp group is regularly being updated with the updates of these persons.

"Prem Singh, a sixth-year MBBS student (named changed) from Haryana, who was studying at our university, has gone missing and his phone is unreachable for the last two days. We are calling him non-stop but the network is also bad here," said Sahil from Kharkiv.

Another student from Vinnytsia National Pirogov Medical University called Abdul (name changed) is also untraceable for the last two days. His friends were unable to contact him as his phone did not work.

"We have posted his details on various social media platforms and are asking for his whereabouts. Hope we find him soon," said his friend Saurav (name changed) studying in the same university. Abdul was on his way towards Poland border and couldn't be tracked later.

According to Sandeep Kaur, a student who was able to cross the Poland border and is now waiting to fly back to India, many students headed for the Ukraine-Poland border lost their phones on the way and the border security forces snatched the phones of some of these students.

(Top) A student hugs her family member on her arrival at Birsa Munda International Airport in Ranch on Tuesday; Students who fled the conflict zone in Ukraine at a refugee camp at Voluntari in Romania | PTI

SHORT TAKES

350 from Bihar still in Ukraine

Patna: A total of 350 students from Bihar are still stranded in Ukraine, leaving their family members high and dry. The highest 64 students stuck in Ukraine were from East Champaran district. Patna has 38 students followed by Katihar, 19, Purnia, 17 and Sitamarhi, 15, respectively. The remaining were from districts like Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Siwan and Nawada. In all, 83 students returned homes safely in three days.

MP, Polish envoy exchange barbs

New Delhi: A war of words ensued between Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP Priyanka Chaturvedi and Poland's Ambassador to India over a tweet stating denial of entry of Indian students from war-hit Ukraine. On Monday, Priyanka Chaturvedi tweeted tagging the Indian Embassy in Poland over the issue, which was swiftly replied refuting the stated claim. The Polish envoy also tweeted about the efforts made by the Polish government.

Cong wants parl meet convened

New Delhi: The Congress on Tuesday demanded that the government convene an all-party meeting on Ukraine to appraise the parliamentarians about the situation. "At such a crucial time in history, PM Modi should convene an all-party parliamentary meeting on the war. Such a dialogue will help the government take the best possible step forward," said Gaurav Gogoi, party deputy leader in the Lok Sabha.

90% of students abroad fail to qualify in India: Minister

New Delhi: Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi claimed 90 per cent of Indians, who study medicine abroad, fail to qualify in exams in India. His remarks came as one medical student died in Ukraine on Tuesday, while thousands are stranded even as the government tries to evacuate them. The union minister said, "This was not the time to debate over the matter of why students went abroad to study medicine."

BRAVING TOUGH JOURNEY

Forces at border used stun guns, batons and fired in the air: Student

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @New Delhi

WALKED nearly 50 kilometres in the cold for four days – sometimes alone, hungry and almost on the verge of collapse. Nineteen-year-old Asha (name changed), a second-year medical student in Ukraine, finally had a good night's sleep at a hotel in Poland on Monday.

Terrified after her harrowing time at the border where she was among the hundreds of Indian students, who were beaten, tortured, and harassed, she finally heaved a sigh of relief when she was reunited with friends she had separated from while walking towards the Ukraine-Poland border at the hotel arranged by the Indian Embassy in Poland in cooperation with Indo-Polish Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

"I started walking with my friends on February 25 morning. Last night, we had reached this hotel (in Poland). We were constantly walking in the minus five degree temperature with luggage. We had carried food and water with our us," she told this newspaper over the phone about her journey after Russia attacked Ukraine. She is now staying with over 400 Indian students at the Hotel Prezydenckie in Poland and is waiting for flights back home tonight.

Sharing her experience at the Ukraine-Poland border where Indians were beaten up, she said, "We were stopped at the border for close to eight hours without reason. The Ukrainian army suddenly turned violent. They started beating up people, especially Indians."

"They used batons, stun guns, and even fired in the air. It was a terrifying sight which I will never forget," she said. Her other friends, who also requested not to be identified, and were injured at the border, agreed that the memory would permanently be etched in their minds.

Nehal Singh from Ahmedabad, a third-year student from the same college, said he is happy to be alive and doesn't want to remember the horror they witnessed at the border where Indians were beaten up mercilessly.

During her journey towards the Polish border, Asha was separated from her friends and walked alone for miles. "I was lucky to find another group of Indian students who were walking towards the border. Many of us also suffered from hyperthermia."

"I walked for 40 to 50 kilometres in these four days. My legs are swollen, my skin is peeling. I have cuts and bruises. It's the same with my friends," she constantly coughed as she spoke.

"Now, I am in a safe place. The arrangements here are fantastic," she said as she praised Amit Lath, vice-president of the Chamber, who is helping the Indian Embassy in Poland in making arrangements for the evacuees. "He is also helping us in trying to locate other Indian students who are similarly stranded."

Happy to be alive and don't want to remember the horror we witnessed at the border where Indians were beaten up mercilessly

NEHAL SINGH, student from Gujarat

I started walking with my friends on February 25 morning. Last night, we reached this hotel (in Poland). We were constantly walking in the minus 5 degree temperature with luggage. We had carried food and water with us

ASHA (name changed), student

Praise for Indo-Polish chamber

Asha praised Amit Lath, of Indo-Polish Chamber of Commerce and Industry, who is helping the Indian Embassy in Poland in making arrangements for the evacuees. "The arrangements here are fantastic," Asha said.

Air Force to join effort to fly back stranded Indians

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

WITH one Indian student killed in shelling in Kharkiv, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is trying to expedite the process of evacuating other Indians from Ukraine. He has asked the Air Force to join the process under Operation Ganga.

The IAF is likely to deploy several C 17 planes, which is a large transport aircraft. Until now, only private carriers were involved in the evacuation process. The IAF's C-17 aircraft can carry 336 passengers. It was used in the evacuation of Indians from Afghanistan.

Since Ukrainian airspace is shut, evacuation efforts are being expedited from bordering countries including Romania and Hungary.

Meanwhile, the Indian embassy in Kyiv through a tweet has asked all Indian nationals, including students, to leave the city urgently, preferably by available trains or through any other means available.

Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla is calling up the Ambassadors of Russia and Ukraine to reiterate India's demand for urgent safe passage for those stuck in the city of Kharkiv and other conflict zones. Similar action is being taken by India's Ambassadors in Russia and Ukraine.

Pilot shortage affects AI operations

YESHI SELI @New Delhi

AIR India, which has been sending evacuation flights to bring back Indians from Ukraine, sent its smaller aircraft (Boeing 787 Dreamliner) due to shortage of pilots who fly bigger aircraft, like the Boeing 747.

Nearly 1,400 Indians have been flown back to India in the first six evacuation flights from Ukraine. More persons could have been evacuated had Air India been able to send a larger capacity aircraft like the B 747.

While the Dreamliner has a capacity of 330 passengers, B 747s can fly up to 600 passengers. According to sources, this has happened due to shortage of pilots that fly this aircraft. It is reliably learnt that pilots who were flying B 744 (B 747-400) have been sent to fly B 777, B 787 and A 320.

According to sources, the four B 747 aircraft that Air India has at present are being considered to be utilised later for cargo and Haj operations (two each).

Since the B 747 pilots have been asked to fly B 744, in order to return back to flying B 747 they will have to do an extended ground refresher course, couple of simulator and route checks. The Boeing 744 simulator was decommissioned due to maintenance, and in the interim pilots were using simulator of Singapore Airlines.

Air India has refused to comment on the shortage of pilots.

"Positioning of aircraft depends on various factors, including availability of aircraft, ground handling infrastructure at destination airports, fuel efficiency etc. Due to operational reasons and infrastructure feasibility. B787 aircraft are being used now," an Air India spokesperson told TNIE.

Air India operates 141 aircraft, including the Air India Express's 24 Boeing B737-800s. Around 43 of these are on lease. The Air India fleet of aircraft includes Airbuses (A 319-100, A 320-200, A 320-200neo, A 321-200) and Boeings (B 747-400, B 777-200(LR), B 777-300(ER) and B 787-800.

Meanwhile, more airlines from India will now fly back those stranded in Ukraine.

Scindia, other ministers leave for Europe to facilitate evacuation

New Delhi: Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Tuesday left for Romanian capital Bucharest on an Air India flight to facilitate the evacuation of Indians who are stranded in Ukraine following the Russian military offensive. Besides Scindia, Union Ministers Hardeep Puri, Kiren Rijiju and V K Singh have also left for Ukraine's neighbouring countries as special envoys. Puri is going to Hungary, Jyotiraditya Scindia will oversee the process in Romania and Moldova, Kiren Rijiju is traveling to Slovakia and Gen (retd) V K Singh will supervise the evacuation along Poland border. *PTI*

MAHARASHTRA

Rough budget session on the cards in state

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

THE Maharashtra state Assembly's annual budget session is scheduled from March 3 to March 25 in Mumbai. It is likely to be stormy session over various issues including the arrest of two ministers of the Maha Vikas Aghadi government and allegations of illegal phone tapping by the previous BJP government.

BJP has decided to focus on the arrest of state cabinet minister Nawab Malik by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on allegations of money laundering linked to the 'D company'.

"Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray would have sacked Nawab Malik from his cabinet, but they are shamelessly defending him. It is surprising that the minister who has links with the 'D company' and terror funding has been protected by Shiv Sena and its leadership. The CM should come clean over this," BJP leader Ashish Shelar said.

The leader said they would continue to demand the resignation of Malik. "BJP will protest if the CM did not seek his resignation," he said.

Cong child connect initiative to include lawyers & activists

RICHA SHARMA @New Delhi

FROM Kathua rape victim lawyers to prominent child rights activists and constitutional experts, the Congress looks to get on board a group of people to expand its Jawahar Bal Manch. It is a platform to reach out to children in the 7-18 age group. The idea is to inculcate constitutional values in them and and sensitise them about the diversity, equality of the country and secularism.

The Jawahar Bal Manch (JBM) under national chairman Dr GV Hari is looking to have a pan-India presence to engage with children with focus on propagating constitutional values.

The grand party has already approached Dipika Singh Rajawat, lawyer of the Kathua gangrape victim's family, child rights activists and constitutional experts with pedagogical background to join in. The idea is to propagate the values of India among the kids , with imagination, fun, and spreading love being its core.

The patron membership has been launched in three states — Kerala, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh — and work has started to appoint state-level and district-level leaders and coordinators. The party has also launched a publication called The Buds. The January issue of the publication is based on the theme 'India imagined by the Constitution'. Chhattisgarh has been chosen as a pilot state. The programme will be expanded to other Congress-ruled states.

"The focus is to get good people on board to take forward the idea. It is a long-term project and for the next one or two years, the focus will be on building a team across the country. We are also in the process of preparing a curriculum for training, with focus on the constitution, constitutional values, and the history of India," Hari told this newspaper.

Jawahar Bal Manch is a successful organisation in Kerala and MP Jothi Mani has been associated with it since 2012. Ramya Haridas, another young MP from the state, is a product of Jawahar Bal Manch.

SPIRITUAL FRENZY

Devotees take part in 'Palki Yatra' on the occasion of Maha Shivratri at Kantareshwar temple in Surat on Tuesday | PTI

EXPRESS READ

Western air command gets new chief

New Delhi: Air Marshal Sreekumar Prabhakaran took charge of the Delhi-based western air command of the Indian Air Force. Prabhakaran was commissioned into the IAF as a fighter pilot in 1983. He succeeds Air Marshal Amit Dev who superannuated on Monday.

JEE-Main first phase in April, second in May

New Delhi: The JEE-Main's first phase will be conducted in April while the second phase is scheduled in May, officials of the National Testing Agency said. The first phase of the engineering entrance exam will be conducted from April 16-21 and the second from May 24-29.

Man donates 60 kg gold for Kashi Vishwanath

NAMITA BAJPAI @Varanasi

AN anonymous trader hailing from south India has made a secret donation (gupt daan) of 60 kg of gold to plate the sanctum sanctorum of Kashi Vishwanath temple.

Of this, 37 kg equals to the weight of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mother Hiraben. This has been used to plate the inner walls of the sanctum sanctorum.

Despite the donor requesting anonymity, the glitter of gold could not be hid and it was evident recently when PM Modi offered obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum during his visit to Varanasi on February 27.

Till then, pilgrims arriving here had been getting a glimpse of the glitter while offering prayers through 'jharokha darshan' (seeing the deity from a window) after the work of gold plating commenced.

The donation of gold was confirmed by Divisional Commissioner Deepak Agarwal. "Of the 60 kg gold received from an anonymous donor, 37 kg has been used for covering the inner walls of the sanctum sanctorum. The remaining 23 kg will be used for covering the lower portion of the golden dome of the main structure," said Agarwal.

As per Kashi Vishwanath Trust sources, the donor had come in contact with temple authorities months before the inauguration of Kashi Vishwanath Dham by PM Modi on December 13, 2021. Sources claimed that a Delhi-based firm was engaged for the gold plating work. "Work started on a Friday and was completed by Sunday," said Agarwal.

'BJP DISOWNING JOB CRISIS'

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury attacked the BJP, saying it is "washing its hands off" the job crisis in the country. He was replying to HM Amit Shah's comment on the communists' 'stand' on job crisis.

11 INJURED IN EXPLOSION IN J-K'S ANANTNAG HOSPITAL

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	29	18	Mumbai	33	25
Bhopal	33	18	Panaji	30	23
Jaipur	28	18	Patna	30	14
Amritsar	24	13	Lucknow	30	19
Chennai	33	24	Port Blair	31	26
Kolkata	32	19	Imphal	29	05
Srinagar	13	04	Chandigarh	29	14

ASSEMBLY ELECTION 2022 DECIDE

SP and BSP kept quiet against BJP: Priyanka

LUCKNOW: Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra claimed the SP and the BSP have an understanding with the BJP and have not raised their voices fearing probes by central agencies. Referring to the death of some people during anti-CAA and anti-NRC protests in the state allegedly in police firing, Priyanka said no SP or BSP leader went to meet their families.

Row over detention of Congress candidate

IMPHAL: High drama was witnessed as a Congress candidate was arrested for allegedly assaulting an on-duty polling personnel during the Manipur polls and later released on bail. Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh has decried the action against Lamtinthang Haokip in Saitu constituency as a "murder of democracy" by Amit Shah and Manipur CM N Biren Singh.

Owaisi takes jibe at Akhilesh & Modi

LUCKNOW: In a swipe at the Samajwadi Party, AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi said Akhilesh Yadav does not have the strength to stop the BJP from coming to power in UP. He also took a dig at PM Narendra Modi, saying he came to know of the stray cattle menace only at election time. Targeting Modi, he said after calling himself a '*chowkidar*', Modi has now became a '*badshah*'.

Battle of caste, community & blood ties in Fazilnagar

Triangular fight after BSP candidate enters poll arena featuring SP heavyweight Swami Prasad Maurya and BJP's Surender Kushwaha

NAMITA BAJPAI @Gorakhpur (UP)

FILIAL ties could land Sanghmitra Maurya, BJP MP from Badaun, in trouble. On Monday night Sanghmitra, daughter of BJP turncoat Swami Prasad Maurya, had to leave her father's door-to-door campaign midway. Sources said she was canvassing for her father "quietly" and was spotted by BJP workers who alerted party leaders in Fazilnagar, the constituency from where Maurya is a Samajwadi Party candidate. Fazilnagar will vote along with Gorakhpur in Phase-6 of Assembly polls on March 3.

TNIE @ GROUND ZERO

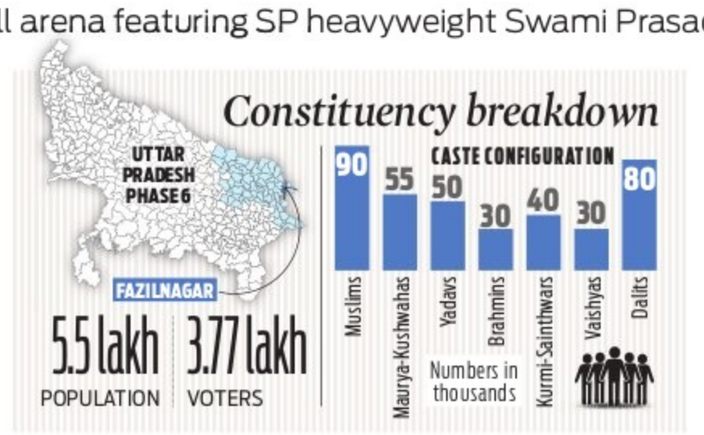
Swami Prasad Maurya is a prominent non-Yadav OBC face in state politics. He is counting on his traditional vote base and that of SP's core voters. His opponent, BJP's Surender Singh Kushwaha, is also a prominent OBC face and is son of sitting BJP MLA Ganga Singh Kushwaha. The BJP is banking on the development work done by the Yogi government besides the caste dynamics.

However, BSP candidate Mohammad Illyas Ansari, an SP turncoat, has made the election triangular. The BSP has a strong presence in the assembly segment with over 80,000 Dalit and 90,000 Muslim voters.

Maurya is wooing the voters over caste census while raising stray cattle menace, lack of health and education facilities and unemployment. He deserted BJP on January 14 to join the SP, after serving as labour minister in the Yogi cabinet for five years. He has now chosen Fazilnagar instead of adjoining stronghold Padrauna where he was believed to be facing strong anti-incumbency. Maurya had representing Padrauna for four terms since 2007.

In the fray with an outsider tag (given by rivals), Maurya is depending largely on the caste matrix of the segment with his influence over OBC Maurya-Kushwaha-Shakya-Saini community along with the traditional support base of the SP.

BJP nominee Surender Singh Kushwaha too belongs to the OBC community. He comes from Gurwaliya, a village dominated by Kushwahas, in Fazilnagar.



Both Maurya and Kushwaha have left the voters confused.

"It is a difficult election as the fight is between a big name (Maurya) and the local leader of the community," says Sharad Kushwaha, a farmer. "Though Surender Singh is our own candidate and is always easily available in the hour of need, but Maurya is a big name."

Ram Autar, 65, sounds hopeful saying Maurya is a big OBC leader and he will develop Fazilnagar. The saffron brigade is treating Fazilanagar as a seat of prestige. The BJP often targets Maurya for his 'betrayal'.

Fazilnagar is a small sub-urban pocket of Kushinagar, the land of Lord Budhha who had attained salvation here. Of the 5.5 lakh population, Fazilnagar has an electorate of 3.77 lakh.

"In 2017, we had voted for Ganga Singh Kushwaha. Now his son is contesting. Both the father and the son have influence over OBC voters. They are promising us to stand by in our happiness and grief. Voters will make a final decision on March 3," says Jitendra Singh, a grocery shop owner in Babuganj market.

Compelled to make a tough choice between Maurya and Kushwaha, the voters of Fazilnagar are not ignoring BSP candidate Ilyas Ansari, who quit the Samajwadi Party after he could not get the ticket.

The Congress and the AAP has fielded Sunil Singh and Harish Chandra Yadav.

For Sarvesh Kumar Maurya, the contest will be tough between BJP and SP. "My choice is clear. I may be belonging to the same caste as Swami Prasad but I cannot overlook the development done by the BJP."

Union home minister Amit Shah and Manipur CM N Biren Singh have lunch during campaign trail at Thoubal district | PTI

Will establish peace in Manipur: Shah

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said BJP would make Manipur drugs-free and solve its insurgency problem if voted to power.

"We have done a lot in Manipur. Give us five more years. We will establish permanent peace in Manipur by holding dialogues with all insurgent groups," Shah said at an election rally in Thoubal, which is represented by former Congress CM Okram Ibobi Singh.

He said no youth would be fired upon nor go to jail. They will join the mainstream and work for the development of Manipur and the country, Shah added.

Drug is a serious problem in Manipur and Shah promised to rid the state of it. "We will launch a massive drive in the next five years to make Manipur drugs-free," he said.

Taking on the Congress, Shah said, "In the 15 years of its rule (2002-2017), there were over 600 *bandhs* and blockades. Under BJP, there has been none. The Modi government built roads with investments of ₹16,023 crore. There is a 272% increase in tourists' footfall."

Drawing another comparison, he said the state had no women police station prior to 2017 but the BJP government built one in every district.

MUMBAI LINK COMMON IN MANY EAST UP CONTENDERS

ANURAAG SINGH @Bhopal

MANY candidates from families settled in Mumbai are in the election fray in east UP. Most such candidates, contesting from BSP, Apna Dal (S), Nishad Party, Vikassheel Insan Party (VIP) and Congress, are contesting from Jaunpur, Prayagraj, Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi), Pratapgarh, Amethi and Ghazipur districts.

A large part of these UP districts have their economies directly connected to Mumbai, as thousands from these districts earn livelihood from variegated professions, businesses there.

Leading these candidates is twice elected Samajwadi Party MLA from Saidpur (SC) seat of Ghazipur district, Subhash Pasi, who is now with the ruling BJP and is contesting from Nishad Party, a saffron party ally.

In Ghazipur district, the Mohamdabad seat, the BSP has fielded Manvendra Rai, who reportedly has stakes in Mumbai's real estate sector. He is among the three Bhumihar caste candidates in the fray from the seat. His rivals are ruling BJP's sitting MLA Alka Rai and Congress' Arvind Kishore Rai.

In the adjoining Jaunpur district, the Mariyahu seat (often nicknamed as mini-Mumbai owing to its large population based in the Maharashtra capital) has two candidates having the Mumbai connect. While BSP candidate Anand Dubey has business stakes in Pune and Mumbai, VIP candidate Ashok Singh heads a forwarding and clearing agency in Mumbai.

In the same district, Nishad Party candidate Ramesh Kumar Singh is the son of former Apna Dal (S) MP and Mumbai-based builder Kunwar Harivansh Singh. Ex-All India Congress Minority Department head Nadim Javed is in the fray from the Jaunpur (Sadar) seat which he won in 2012, but lost to BJP in 2017. Nadim Javed's father Dr Javed Ahmad is a senior Congress politician in Mumbai.

In the adjoining Prayagraj district, Karan Singh, who runs a mineral water plant in Mumbai, is contesting as an Independent. In 2017, he lost by only 2000-plus votes as Apna Dal (S) candidate from Pratappur seat.

In the neighbouring Pratapgarh district, BSP candidate from Raniganj seat Ajay Yadav runs a hospital in Prayagraj, but was born and brought up at Mira Road area of Mumbai. He was recently in Mumbai and adjoining Thane to campaign among east UP residents, who are either voters or have relatives as voters in Raniganj.

SP's Subhash Pasi during poll campaign

And the story doesn't end there, but stretches up to Amethi district, as the BSP candidate from Gauriganj, Ram Lakhan Shukla's father Keshav Shukla is an investment banker based in Mumbai's Powai and Vile Parle area.

Even in Varanasi district, the first-time sitting BJP MLA from Pindra, Avdhesh Singh has a strong Mumbai connect. He is believed to have got the BJP ticket again with the help of former Maharashtra home minister Kripa Shankar Singh.

The ex-Maharashtra minister, who is believed to have been keen on getting a BJP ticket for his daughter from Jaunpur Sadar, has campaigned for the sitting BJP MLA in Pindra recently.

Even politicians who failed to click in Maharashtra politics have revived their political career in east UP.

Subhash Pasi, the twice SP MLA from Saidpur in Ghazipur district, now in the fray with BJP's support was a youth Congress leader in Mumbai in early 1990s. He, however, clicked electorally in 2017 and 2022 UP polls from Saidpur seat of native Ghazipur district. He is now a BJP-supported candidate from the same seat and has Bhojpuri star Dinesh Yadav 'Nirahua' campaigning for him.

Non-BJP parties accuse BJP of strong-arm tactics

GUWAHATI: Non-BJP candidates of Manipur's Henglep seat have jointly approached the Election Commission, alleging that militants captured booths and prevented voters from exercising their right at the behest of the BJP during the first phase of elections.

In a complaint, Congress, National People's Party (NPP), JDU and Shiv Sena candidates named Kuki National Front (MC), Kuki National Front (Zougam), Kuki National Front (Samuel) and Kuki National Army, which had signed separate suspension of operation agreements with the government earlier.

"The cadres of banned militant groups captured polling booths in multiple polling stations. These militants, who acted in support of the BJP candidate, intimidated and threatened voters and supporters of Shiv Sena, NPP and INC candidates, snatched their voter slips and prevented them from casting vote," the complaint reads.

"As such as per 135A, 58 & 58A of the Representative of the Peoples Act, the voting listed under the following polling stations should be declared null and void and fresh polls may be conducted along with tight security arrangement for free and fair voting," it added.

They alleged the incidents had occurred in 23 polling stations and submitted photographic evidence. *ENS*

28 militants slain in Kashmir this year

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

A surge in encounters has seen in the elimination of 28 militants — half of them affiliated with Jaish-e-Mohammad— in the first two months of this year, as per available data.

Sixteen gunfights have taken place in the Kashmir Valley, up from five in the same period last year. While 11 encounters took place in January, five was reported in February.

Three gunfights had taken place in Srinagar (two in Shalimar and one Zakura) in which four militants, including top local Lashkar commander Saleem Parray and wanted Pakistani militant Hamza Bhai, were eliminated.

"Of the 28 militants killed, 14 belonged to Jaish-e-Mohammad. Eight of the slain militants were foreigners (Pakistani nationals)," the data states.

The remaining slain militants were of Lashkar-e-Toiba, The Resistance Front and Hizbul Mujahideen.

Two Army men, a policeman and a civilian have also been killed in the encounters.

Last year, eight militants were killed while two had surrendered in south Kashmir.

A security official said more encounters does not mean that militant violence or activities have increased. "It is up because security forces are getting more information," he said.

Similarly, a police officer said now all the militant groups operating in Kashmir are without their top leadership.

TWO MAOISTS SURRENDER

RANCHI: Two members of the outlawed CPI (Maoist), including a top ultra leader who was carrying a bounty of ₹10 lakh on his head, surrendered before security forces in Jharkhand on Tuesday. The duo laid down arms before joint teams of state and central forces during an ongoing anti-Maoist operation. Nine Maoists have been arrested, and five others have surrendered so far.

Cong lawmaker predicts downward spiral of Nitish-BJP ties after UP election result

RAMASHANKAR @Patna

SENIOR Bihar Congress leader claimed the Nitish Kumar-led NDA government was headed for turbulent days once the poll result of Uttar Pradesh comes out on March 10.

"The JD-U national president's statement about alliance with the BJP should not be taken lightly. It's loaded with political meaning," Congress MLC Prem Chandra Mishra said, referring to Lalan Singh's statement at Ballia in which he stated that alliance with the BJP was 'circumstantial' and it didn't mean that the same would follow outside Bihar.

Mishra said the results of the UP elections will have its impact on the JDU-BJP alliance. "The JDU chief's statement is self explanatory," he added.

Apprehending 'political instability' after the results of the assembly polls in Uttar Pradesh, the lawmaker said, "I think the survival of the government will be at stake after the results of UP election."

When asked whether the Congress would support Nitish, Mishra said the decision will be taken by the high command. "Let Nitish Kumar snap ties with BJP first."

Incidentally, RJD had recently lent support to Nitish on caste count and special status for Bihar. It had claimed that a new political equation would emerge after '*kharmas*' (inauspicious month).

IIEST, other NITs told to resume offline

The Union Ministry of Education wrote to IIEST, Shibpur and all NITs on February 24 asking them to resume complete academic offline activities at the earliest in accordance with instructions from the state disaster management authorities. Debabrata Mazumdar, the dean of students at IIEST, said offline classes at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels will start from March 21. Following the notice, officials of the IIEST, Shibpur, held a meeting. "Classes will resume in the offline mode after the completion of mid-semester exams. Students will be asked to report to campus within March 21," said an official.

PRANAB MONDAL
Our correspondent in West Bengal
pranabm@newindianexpress.com

KOLKATA DIARY

Fee waiver for unaided private schools to end

A number of schools in Kolkata have communicated to the parents that they would have to pay up enhanced fees from April, while a few others will soon take a call on the fees they will charge in the new academic session. While most of the schools have hiked their fees, a few haven't done so far. But parents will still end up paying more because the 20 per cent waiver on the fees that the high court had ordered because of the pandemic would lapse this month. The high court had last week said the waiver it had ordered for 149 unaided-private schools to offer to the parents would not apply from March. The high court had in October 2020 ordered the schools, to waive tuition fees between April 2020 and a month after the resumption of offline classes.

State wants bus stand at heritage zone redesigned

The state has requested the Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation (KMRC), the implementing agency of the East-West Metro project, to come up with a design for rebuilding the BBD Bagh bus stand in keeping with the zone's heritage status. "We have requested the KMRC to come up with a design that is in sync with the heritage status of the zone where Writers' Buildings is located," said Transport Minister Firhad Hakim, adding, "We are not looking at a new building. But the design of the bus stand should blend with the heritage structures here."

Iran to participate in 45th city book fair

Iran will participate in the Kolkata Book Fair for the first time, the Publishers and Booksellers' Guild has said. Iran will be part of a contingent of publishers from 20 other countries at the 45th edition of the Book Fair scheduled to be held from February 28 to March 13. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is scheduled to inaugurate the annual event at Central Park in Salt Lake. The fair could not be held last year because of the pandemic. Among the guests will be K M Khalid, Bangladesh's minister for cultural affairs and Bangladeshi author Selina Hossain. Bangladesh is the fair's 'theme country' this year.

$1.7 billion

assistance sought by United Nations to provide urgent aid to people caught in Russian invasion of Ukraine

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	16	-2	SNY	Los Angeles	27	11	SNY
Colombo	34	25	LC	Melbourne	28	17	HR
Dhaka	31	18	SNY	Moscow	2	-10	SNY
Dubai	26	17	SNY	New York	11	4	SNY
Houston	23	11	LC	Singapore	31	25	TDS
Istanbul	6	2	LC	Toronto	2	-9	SW
London	8	5	HR	Washington	18	8	LC

‘Undisguised terror’: Russia’s Kharkiv strike chills Ukraine

Dozens of casualties reported as forces step up attacks on residential neighbourhoods; Zelenskyy calls shelling of city a ‘war crime’

Emergency personnel carry a body out of the damaged local city hall of Kharkiv that was destroyed in shelling by Russian troops on Tuesday | AFP

KHARKIV

IN THE dust, debris and the dead lying in Kharkiv’s central Freedom Square, Ukrainians on Tuesday saw what might become of other cities if Russia’s invasion isn’t countered in time..

Not long after sunrise, a Russian military strike hit the centre of Ukraine’s second-largest city, badly damaging the symbolic Soviet-era regional administration building. Closed-circuit television footage showed a fireball engulfing the street in front of the building, with a few cars continuing to roll out of the billowing smoke.

An emergency official said the bodies of at least six people had been pulled from the ruins, and at least 20 other people were injured. It wasn’t immediately clear what type of weapon was used or how many people were killed, but Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said there were dozens of casualties.

Zelenskyy called the attack on the Freedom Square “frank, undisguised terror. Nobody will forgive. Nobody will forget. This attack on Kharkiv is a war crime.”

It was the first time the Russian military had hit the centre of the city of about 1.5 million people whose residential neighbourhoods have been under fire for days. The Ukrainian emergency service said it had put out 24 fires in and around Kharkiv caused by shelling, and it had disabled 69 explosive devices.

Also struck on Tuesday was a tent site on the central square that had been set up to collect aid for the volunteer Ukrainian fighters who have rushed to Kharkiv’s defence. In recent days, volunteer guards had occupied the regional administration building as part of those efforts. It was feared that some of the volunteers were now among the dead.

Windows of the administration building were blown out. Ceilings had collapsed. Concrete dust added another layer of grim, gray desperation.

The Russian military has denied targeting civilians, despite abundant evidence of shelling of residential buildings, schools and hospitals. The military “takes all measures to preserve the lives and safety of civilians,” Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said on Tuesday. “I would like to stress that strikes are carried out only on military targets and uses exclusively precision weapons.” *AP*

Attack ‘absolutely sickening’: British PM

TALLINN: UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson said on Tuesday that Russia’s bombardment of Ukraine’s second city Kharkiv was “absolutely sickening” and reminiscent of massacres of civilians in Sarajevo in the 1990s. “What’s happening in Kharkiv, it’s absolutely sickening, and it reminds me if anything (of) the shelling of Sarajevo market, the shelling of innocent people in Bosnia,” Johnson told journalists during a visit to a NATO base in Tallinn. *AFP*

‘Moscow’s legitimate demands ought to be addressed’

BEIJING

AS Russia stepped up its military offensive in Ukraine, China on Tuesday said that Moscow’s “legitimate security demands” ought to be taken seriously and properly addressed for a political settlement to resolve the Ukrainian crisis.

Refusing to criticise Russia’s military action, which has entered a decisive phase with thousands of Russian troops massed on the outskirts of Ukraine’s capital Kyiv, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin called for a “political settlement that accommodates both sides” legitimate security concerns, achieves common security in Europe and promotes Europe’s lasting peace and stability’.

Asked to elaborate, Wang said: “China believes that the security of one country should not come at the expense of the security of other countries, still less should regional security be guaranteed by strengthening or even expanding military blocs”.

“The Cold War mentality should be discarded completely. The legitimate security concerns of all countries should be respected.

“Given NATO’s five consecutive rounds of eastward expansion, Russia’s legitimate security demands ought to be taken seriously and properly addressed,” he said. On the mounting casualties in Ukraine as a result of Russia’s offensive, Wang said that the Ukraine issue has complex historical context and realistic factors.

“The Chinese side regrets the casualties. The current situation is not what we want to see. The top priority is for all parties to exercise necessary restraint to prevent the situation on the ground in Ukraine from deteriorating or even spiralling out of control,” he said. *PTI*

More than 6,60,000 refugees have fled Ukraine, says UN

GENEVA: More than 6,60,000 refugees have fled the conflict in Ukraine for safety in neighbouring countries, while around a million people are estimated to be internally displaced, the United Nations said on Tuesday. The UN Refugee Agency UNCHR said the rapidly escalating situation looked set to become Europe’s biggest refugee crisis this century, with hundreds of thousands of people on the move as Russian troops pound cities in eastern Ukraine, on day six of Moscow’s invasion. “We have now over 6,60,000 refugees who have fled Ukraine to neighbouring countries in the past six days alone,” UNHCR spokeswoman Shabia Mantoo told reporters in Geneva. *AP*

Civilians cross a river through a blown-up bridge on Kyiv’s northern front on Tuesday | AFP

‘Putin win in Ukraine would worsen humanitarian crisis’

GENEVA: If Russian President Vladimir Putin achieves his goal of ousting the government in Kyiv, the humanitarian and rights crises in Ukraine “will only get worse”, the top US diplomat warned on Tuesday. US Secretary of State **Antony Blinken** warned the UN Human Rights Council that Russia’s “premeditated, unprovoked and unjustified attack on Ukraine” was creating a dire human rights and humanitarian crisis there. He also questioned whether Russia should be allowed to hold onto its seat on the Geneva-based council after launching its invasion of Ukraine on February 24. *AFP*

NATO chief sees no need to change nuclear alert level

LASK AIR BASE (POLAND): NATO’s chief said on Tuesday that despite Russia’s threats about nuclear weapons, the alliance sees no need to change its own nuclear weapons alert level. The alliance’s secretary-general, Jens Stoltenberg, mase the statement following talks on European security with Polish President Andrzej Duda at an air base in Lask, central Poland, where NATO’s Polish and US fighter jets F-15 and F-16 are based. “We will always do what is needed to protect and defend our allies, but we don’t think there is any need now to change the alert levels of NATO’s nuclear forces,” Stoltenberg said. *AP*

EXPRESS READ

Father kills 3 children, self in US shooting

Los Angeles: A father shot dead three of his daughters on Monday before turning the gun on himself in a US church, police said. A fifth person also died in the shooting in Sacramento, California, though it was not clear if that person was related to what police said was a domestic incident. “The suspect in this case, who ended up killing himself, had a restraining order out against him by his estranged wife, the mother of the three children victims,” Sacramento County Sheriff Scott Jones told NBC Bay Area. All three children were under the age of 15, police said. *AFP*

11 die in shopping mall blaze in Syria

Damascus: A fire broke out in a shopping mall in the Syrian capital of Damascus on Tuesday, killing 11 people and injuring seven others, the state-owned news agency said. SANA reported that two people were rescued from the La Mirada Mall building and the injured were immediately transferred to the local Al-Mowasat University Hospital. It added that several of the injured suffered smoke inhalation. The fire broke out at night when the mall was closed and most of the dead are believed to be security guards. *AP*

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)

Dabaspet Branch
Madhugiri Road, Near Police Station
Dabaspet-562111, Tel: 080-27734566
E-mail: cb3285@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E Auction Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of Security interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) of the security interest (Enforcement) rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the **Physical possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Canara Bank , Dabaspet Branch**, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **30/03/2022 (10.30 AM to 11.00 PM),** for recovery of **Rs. 46,16,487/-** with further interest and cost thereon due to the Dabaspet Branch, Bengaluru Rural of Canara Bank from **(1) M/s Ashwa batteries industries, Prop. Shri Shridhara Y** S/o Yellappa located at Hanumanthapura Nelamangala Taluk-562111, **(2) Smt. Rudranamma** W/o Yellappa located at Hanumanthapura, Nelamangala Taluk-562111.

The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits details are as under & the Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **28/03/2022 at 5.00 pm** by way of DD favouring Authorized Officer of **Canara Bank** through online payment to **Account No. 7958295000001 (IFSC CNRB0007958)** is as under.

(₹.in Lakhs)

Lot	Description of the immovable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremantal Value
1	All that is part and parcel of land and building situated at Hosahalli, Billanakote Post, Sompura Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District bearing Khaneshumari No. 67/136/1 measuring East-West-38 Ft, North-South-75 Ft. Bounded: On the North by: Property of Rudrappa, On the South by:Road and House of Puttana, On the East by:Passage, On the West by:Property of Rajanna.	8.15	0.81	0.20

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or may contact Authorized officer, Canara Bank , Dabaspet Branch, Madhugiri Road, Near Police Station Dabaspet , Contact No: 08027734566, Ph. No:9731828027 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 23.02.2022
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised officer
Canara Bank

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
TNIAM PROJECT

REQUEST FOR BIDS (RFB)
(One-Envelope Bidding Process without e-Procurement)
NATIONAL OPEN COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT
Bid Invitation No.:04 PBC / 2021-22 / 2022 / DATED:28.02.2022

1. The Government of India has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the TamilNadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation Project Phase – III and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards eligible payments under the contract for construction of works as detailed below.
2. Bidding will be conducted through National Open Competitive Procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016_Revised August 2018", ("Procurement Regulations") and is open to all Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
3. Bidders from India should, however, be registered with the Government of Tamilnadu Under class-I (State level) or other State Governments/Government of India, or State/Central Government Undertakings. Bidders from India, who are not registered as above, on the date of bidding, can also participate provided they get themselves registered by the time of contract signing, if they become successful bidders.
4. **The Water Resources Department, Government of Tamilnadu, For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu, The Superintending Engineer, WRD., Palar Basin Circle, Chepauk, Chennai-5, Chennai District, Tamil Nadu** now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the construction of work detailed below in the table.Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the address given below during office hours. Bidders are advised to note the clauses on eligibility (Section I Clause 4) and minimum qualification criteria (Section III – Evaluation and Qualification Criteria), to qualify for the award of the contract. In addition, please refer to paragraphs 3.14 and 3.15 of the "Procurement Regulations" setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
5. **The bidding document may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders from the Office of The Superintending Engineer, WRD., Palar Basin Circle, Chepauk, Chennai-5 Chennai District, Tamil Nadu from 04.03.2022 to 06.04.2022** upon payment of a non-refundable fee (three sets) as indicated in the table below, in the form of Demand Draft (DD) on any Scheduled/Nationalized Bank in favour of the Executive Engineer, WRD, Araniyar Basin Division, Chepauk, Chennai-5 payable at Chennai for the work in Sl.No.1 and Executive Engineer, WRD, Lower Palar Basin Division, Kancheepuram, payable at Kancheepuram for the work in Sl.No.2 Bidding document requested by mail will be dispatched by courier/speed post on payment of an extra amount of **Rs.500/-. The Superintending Engineer, WRD., Palar Basin Circle, Chepauk, Chennai-5, Chennai District, Tamil Nadu** will not be held responsible for the postal delay if any, in the delivery of the documents or non-receipt of the same. ***The bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in*** at free of cost. In such cases, the bidder is responsible for ensuring that any addenda on the website is also downloaded and incorporated.
6. Bids must be delivered to **The Superintending Engineer, WRD., Palar Basin Circle, Chepauk, Chennai-5, Chennai District, Tamil Nadu** on or before **3.00 PM on 07.04.2022** and will be publicly opened on the same day at 3.30 PM, in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives. If the office happens to be closed on the date of receipt of the bids as specified, the bids will be received and opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. Late Bids will be rejected.
7. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of the amount specified for the work in the table below, drawn in favour of the **Executive Engineer, WRD, Araniyar Basin Division, Chepauk, Chennai-5 for Sl.No.1 and Executive Engineer, WRD, Lower Palar Basin Division, Kancheepuram for Sl.No.2.** Bid security will have to be in any one of the forms as specified in the bidding document and shall have to be valid for 45 days beyond the validity of the bid.
8. A pre-bid meeting will be held on **21.03.2022 at 11.00.AM at the Office of The Superintending Engineer, WRD., Palar Basin Circle, Chepauk, Chennai-5,** Chennai District, Tamil Nadu to clarify the issues and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in ITB Clause 7.4 of 'Instructions to Bidders' of the bidding document.Bidders are advised to obtain the bidding document prior to the pre-bid meeting in order for bidders to have a good understanding of the scope of work under this contract for discussion and clarification at the pre-bid meeting.
9. Other details can be seen in the bidding document.
10. The address for communication is as under: **(a) Name & Designation of Officer : Er. A.Muthaiya, B.E., Superintending Engineer, (b) Official Address : Palar Basin Circle, Chepauk, Chennai-5. (c) Email : sepbcwrd@gmail.com (d) Telephone: 044 – 29510531 (e) Website : www.tenders.tn.gov.in (f) Fax : 044 - 29510531**

TABLE

Sl. No.	Package No.	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs.in Lakhs) Including GST *	Bid security (Rs.in Lakhs)	Cost of document (Rs.)	Sale of bid document	Last date of receipt of Bid and opening Date	Period of completion
1	01/TN IAMP/ WRD/GMD/ Works/ Phase III/ 2020-21	Re-habilitation and Modernisation of 22 Tanks and 4 Anicuts and its Supply Channels in Gummidipoondi Block and Taluk of Thiruvallur District under Gummidipoondi Sub-Basin	686.15	13.75	15000+ 2700 (GST)	04.03.2022 to 06.04.2022	07.04.2022 at 3.00 PM and Opening at 3.30 PM onwards	18** Months
2	02 /TN IAMP/ WRD/VGY/ Works/ Phase III/ 2020-21	Re-habilitation and Modernisation of 15 Tanks and its Supply Channel in Vembakkam Block & Taluk in Thiruvannamalai District and 16 Tanks and its Supply Channel in Kancheepuram Block & Taluk, 1 Tank and its Supply Channel in Walajabad Block & Taluk in Kancheepuram District under Vegavathy Sub-Basin	1700.30	34.50	15000+ 2700 (GST)	04.03.2022 to 06.04.2022	07.04.2022 at 3.00 PM and Opening at 3.30 PM onwards	24** Months

* GST

**Including rainy season &water regulation period

Head of account of the Executive Engineer, WRD, Araniyar Basin Division, Chepauk, Chennai-5 for the work Sl.No.1

Cost of tender document has to be remitted under the head of account **"0701-80-800-AA- 29001"** 0701 Major and Medium Irrigation - 80 General - 800 Other Receipts - AA - 29001 Other Receipts to be credited to The Executive Engineer, WRD, Araniyar Basin Division, Chepauk, Chennai -5 for the work in Sl.No.1 and G.S.T has to be remitted under the G.S.T registration number of **33AAAGE0630D1DK**

Head of account of the Executive Engineer, WRD, Lower Palar Basin Division, Kancheepuram for the work Sl.No.2

Cost of tender document has to be remitted under the head of account **"0701-80-800-AA-29001"** 0701 Major and Medium Irrigation - 80 General - 800 Other Receipts - AA – 29001 Other Receipts to be credited to The Executive Engineer, WRD, , Lower Palar Basin Division, Kancheepuram for the work in Sl.No.2 and G.S.T has to be remitted under the G.S.T registration number of **33CHEE04728D1D3**

DIPR/855/Tender/2022

Superintending Engineer, WRD, Palar Basin Circle, Chennai-5.

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்".

Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION BOARD
6th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003
Ph: 080- 23349434 Fax:23347670
No: B6/DPSLC/01/Printer/2021-22 Date:25.02.2022

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Director(Exams), Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board, hereby invites e-tenders from eligible tenderers for **"Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Multi copier machine and Printers"** as per KTPP Act-1999, through e-procurement portal only. Tender documents may be downloaded from **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or **www.sslc.karnataka.gov.in**

Tender commencement date **is 02.03.2022.** Pre–bid meeting is on **05.03.2022 at. 11.00 A.M.** The last date for submission of tender is **17.03.2022 at 4.00 P.M**. Date of opening Technical bid is on **19.03.2022 at 11.00. A.M.** Date of opening Commercial bid is on **22.03.2022 at 11.00 A.M.** The approximate value of tender is **Rs.7,00,000/-. (Rs.Seven Lakhs Only).** The EMD is **Rs.14,000/-.** Other details may be obtained from the KSEEB during office hours.

Sd/- Director (Exams)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby notified that our client propose to purchase the Schedule Property from the owner **Mr. Policarp Benetho,** S/o Mr. Herbert, Resident of No. 17/2, 1st Main, 1st Cross, ITI Layout, "A" Narayananagar, K.R.Puram, Bangalore-560016.

Any person or persons having any manner of right, title or interest in the Schedule Property or objections for the proposed sale may lodge the same with the undersigned along with the supporting legal documents **within 10 (Ten) days** from the date of publication of this notice failing which, our client shall complete the sale transaction. Any Claims/ Objections received beyond the stipulated period will not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residential property bearing Corporation No.4, (Old Site No. 4, Khata No.206/2, Carved out of Survey No.206/2 of Kodigehalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk), PID No. 108-206-2/4, situated at Kodigehalli Extension, Bangalore, Ward No.10 (Old Ward No.9, Vidyaranyapura) Doddabommasandra Sub-Division, Bangalore, together with the building thereon presently within the revenue administrative jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike and the building constructed on site measuring :

East to West : 40 Feet. North to South: 60 Feet. Total Area : 2400 Square Feet and bounded as follows:

East by : Private Property (formerly bearing Site No.3)
West by : Private Property (formerly bearing Site No.5)
North by : Road
South by : Private Property

N. JAIPRAKASH RAO
VEENA RAO
N. ASHOK KUMAR
Advocates
JAYPEE ASSOCIATES
- LAW FIRM -
38, "KRISHNA", 1st Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru-560003
Ph.: 080 23560365 /23468742/23565286
Email: contact@jaypeeassociates.com
Bengaluru Date : 01-03-2022

IN THE COURT OF THE XXIX ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT CITY CIVIL COURT BENGALURU
P & SC. NO. 765/2021

BETWEEN: 1. Anita Nagori, Wife of Late Babu Lal Nagori, aged About 45 years
2. Chetan Nagori, Son of Late Babu Lal Nagori, aged about 30 years
3. Mohak Nagori, Son of Late Babu Lal Nagori, aged about 21 years
All residing at: #708, 2nd Floor, 61st Cross, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore- 560 010 ...**PETITIONERS**

AND Nil ... **RESPONDENTS**

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE PETITION INSTITUTED UNDER SECTION 372 OF THE INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT, 1925 READ WITH ORDER V RULE 20(1)(3) OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, 1908.

Whereas the Petitioners have filed a petition under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 seeking grant/issuance of Succession Certificate in favor of the Petitioner No.1 by this Hon'ble Court with respect to the estate owned by Mr. Late Babulal Nagori more fully described in the Schedule hereunder:

You are hereby summoned to appear in P & S.C. No. 765/2021 before the Hon'ble Court of the XXIX Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge, at Bengaluru (CCH No. 30) in person or through a pleader, duly instructed, on **6th day of June, 2022 at 11 A.M** and set forth your defence.

Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day aforementioned, the matter will be heard and determined in your absence.

SCHEDULE

S.No. Particulars

1. Share Certificate Dated 18th November 2008 for 330 Nos. of Shares in Ratnamani Metals & Tubes Limited Purchased at Rs. 2 (Rupees Two Only) per Share and presently valued at Rs. 1900/- (Rupees One Thousand And Nine Hundred Only) Per Share.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 23rd day of February, 2022.

By order of the Court, Asst. Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.

LAKSHA KALAPPA .B, Advocate
For Kalappa & Vijay,
3rd Floor, 2nd Main, Opp. BDA Complex, Indiranagar, Bangalore-38

IKF Home Finance

IKF HOME FINANCE LIMITED
1st Floor, #6-3-902/A, Plot No. 1, Near Yashoda Hospital,
Raj Bhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad-500082. Ph: 040-23412083.

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
APPENDIX-IV-A [See provision to rule 8(6)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/ charged to **IKF Home Finance Ltd.,** The Physical possession of which have been taken by the Authorized Officer of IKF Home Finance Ltd., will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** basis in e-auction for recovery of the balance due to IKF Home Finance Ltd. from the Borrowers And Guarantors, as mentioned in the table. Details of Borrowers and Guarantors, amount due, Short Description of the immovable property and encumbrances known thereon, possession type, reserve price and earnest money deposit, Date and Time of Auction are also given as:

Name of Borrower/s: Mr. Ashoka. A, S/o. Mr. Mayanna, Co-Borrower : Mrs. Bhagya. H M, W/o. Mr. Ashoka, Both are R/o : No: 22/A, 1st Cross, Vinayaka, Layout, Bangalore South Bangalore-560039. **Loan A/c No: LNPEE01019-200001174.**

Outstanding Amount: Rs. 14,74,983/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Three Only) as on 25/09/2021. and further interest and other expenses thereon till the date of realization.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

All that Piece and Parcel of the Eastern Portion of Property bearing No: 22A, Khatha No: 2/3A, New Municipal No: 22A, BBMP PID. No: 39-43-22A of 1st Cross, Nayandahalli West Layout, Nayandahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Presently within the limits of BBMP Ward. No:131, and Bounded on: **East By**: Remaining Portion of 'A' Schedule property belonging to H.M.Raju, **West By**: Property No: 22B, **North By**: Road, **South By**: Property No: 23A.

Reserve Price: Rs.35,00,000/-; EMD: Rs.3,50,000/-; BID Increment: Rs. 15,000/-

Date of E-Auction: 04.04.2022, Auction Time: 11.30 AM to 12.30 PM

For any clarification please contact:	**Authorised Officer Sri. Balla Karunakar Reddy , Mob: 7995545355 and Mr. Khasim Vali Shaik, Ph.No: 9492927472 Authorised Enforcement Agency M/s. Sharp Professionals Sri. K. Madhu Mob: 8520082322**
Last Date for submission of application for bid with EMD along with KYC documents: **31.03.2022 upto 5.00 p.m**	
Inspection of property is on or before **31.03.2022 before 05.00 PM** on any working day with prior appointment.	

TERMS & CONDITIONS : (1) The intending bidder should submit the evidence of EMD deposit like UTR number along with Request letter for participation in the e-Auction, self-attested copies of (i) Proof of Identification (KYC) Viz ID card/ Driving License/ Passport etc., (ii) Current Address - proof of communication, (iii) PAN card of the bidder (iv) Valid e- mail ID (v) Contact Number (vi) Scanned copies of the original documents can also be submitted to e-mail ID **recovery@ikfhomefinance.com** and Address to submit **IKF HOME FINANCE LTD.,** 1st Floor, #6-3-902/A, Plot No. 1, Near Yashoda Hospital, Raj Bhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad-500082.

(2) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Details: EMD Amount to be deposited by way of RTGS/ NEFT in favour of IKF Home Finance Limited to the account details mentioned herein below: A/c No.: 11520200014177, IFSC: FDRL0001152, Bank Name: The Federal Bank Limited, Branch: Vijayawada - 520 002.

(3) For further clarification bidders can Contact Bank's approved service provider **M/s C1 India Pvt. Ltd., Building 301, Udyog Vihar, Phase-2, Gulf Petrochem Building, Gurgaon, Haryana-122015, https://www.bankeauctions.com, Help Line +91-124-4302020/ 21/ 22/ 23/ 24, +91-9700333933, emailID:support@bankeauctions.com and bikkina.gandhi@ c1india.com,** prior to the date of e-Auction.

Date: 01.03.2022, Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorised Officer, IKF Home Finance Ltd.**

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Value of India's cashless retail transactions on UPI platforms in February, according to National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

Ashneer Grover resigns as BharatPe MD & Director

It comes days after his wife was terminated from the company

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ Bengaluru

A day after losing an arbitration that he filed against BharatPe, Ashneer Grover has resigned from the fintech firm as managing director of the company.

His resignation also comes days after his wife Madhuri Jain was terminated from the firm. Grover had filed an arbitration with the Singapore International Arbitration Centre challenging BharatPe's decision to conduct a governance review.

Also, it is said that Grover resigned after receiving the agenda for Tuesday's board meeting, where he was supposed to be questioned.

An official statement from the company said, "Ashneer Grover resigned as Managing Director and Board Director of BharatPe minutes after receiving the agenda for upcoming Board meeting that included submission of the PwC report regarding his conduct and considering actions based on it. The board reserves the right to take action based on the report's findings."

In his resignation letter to the BharatPe board, Grover said, "Since the beginning of 2022, unfortunately, I've been embroiled in baseless and targeted attacks on me and my family by a few individuals who are ready not only to harm me and my reputation but also harm the reputation of the company, which ostensibly they are trying to protect."

In the letter, Grover said that he is wasting himself fighting a long, lonely battle against the investors and management.

Investors vs founders

He told investors, "For you, the Founder of this company has been reduced to a button to be pressed when needed. I cease to be a human for you." He said that he was being vilified and treated in the most disgraceful manner. He claimed that investors treat founders as "slave".

Earlier, Madhuri Jain was terminated from BharatPe, and she called the ongoing governance review an "eyewash and means to an end".

Grover took a voluntary leave of absence from the company on January 19, and soon after that, the Board appointed an independent audit of the firm's internal process. Also, Grover has been accused of financial fraud and the fintech board has initiated a complete audit of the governance processes.

The battle between Grover and BharatPe started after an audio clip, allegedly of Grover abusing a Kotak Mahindra Bank employee for missing out on an IPO, went viral.

GROVER TIMELINE

- **Jan 5 (2022)-** Audio clip of Grover accusing a bank employee leaks
- **Jan 19-** Grover takes voluntary leave of absence
- **Jan 20-** Madhuri Jain was sent on mandatory leave
- **Jan 29-** BharatPe announces independent audit
- **Feb 11-** Grover accused of financial fraud
- **Feb 22-** Grover attacks board chairman Rajnish Kumar in a letter
- **Feb 23-** BharatPe terminates Jain
- **Feb 27-** Grover loses an arbitration in Singapore against board
- **March 1-** Resigns as BharatPe MD

Setback for Tata as Ilker Ayci declines AI offer

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

IN what can possibly delay Tata Group's herculean task to turn around loss-making Air India, Ilker Ayci, who was all set to steer the newly privatised airline, has declined the offer of Tata Sons to be the Managing Director (MD) and Chief executive officer (CEO).

Since his name was announced by the Tata Group on February 14, there were wide speculations that the Indian government would go through a rigorous process to give Ayci necessary clearances, which generally are formalities, on the back of his close ties with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who is also considered as a close ally of Pakistan.

Ayci has been criticized particularly by RSS-affiliate Swadeshi Jagran Manch who recently opposed his appointment "keeping in view national security".

The Turkish citizen in a statement (sent to Bloomberg) said that some sections of the Indian media are attempting to colour his appointment with undesirable colours and it would not be a feasible or an honourable decision to accept the position in the shadow of such a narrative.

"As a business leader who has always prioritised professional credo and more importantly, the happiness and well being of my family above all else, I have come to the conclusion that it would not be a feasible or an honourable decision to accept the position in the shadow of such a narrative," said Ayci.

Tata Sons on February 14 had announced the appointment of Ilker Ayci as the Managing Director & CEO of Air India.

On February 20, it was reported that the Ministry of Home Affairs will "scrupulously" carry out a thorough background check even as the Home Ministry carries out a thorough background check of all foreign nationals when they are appointed in the key positions of any Indian company.

TNIE contacted India's Home Ministry to know about the Ayci's clearances but did not receive any input from them.

Similarly, Tata Group, which took over Air India from the government on January 27, did not issue any information about Ayci's resignation.

MEDIA FORAY

Adani to buy stake in Quintillion Business Media

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ADANI Group, which had last year announced its foray into media space, is acquiring a minority stake in Quintillion Business Media Private Limited (QBM), an indirect subsidiary of Quint Digital.

The proposed transaction with the Adani Group is only for QBM which is a digital business news platform and not in relation to other digital media/media tech properties owned by Quint Digital viz. The Quint, Quintype Technologies, thenewsminute and Youthkiawaaz, the two companies said in a joint statement on Tuesday. Sanjay Pugalia, CEO, Adani Media Ventures Limited said, "Adani Media Ventures intends to lead the path for new age media across different platforms...I have had the privilege of working with QBM's talented, credible and diverse team. This relationship between AMV and QBM marks a strong beginning of Adani Group's foray into Indian media."

With this stake buying, Gautam Adani, Asia's second richest billionaire, will own a pie in India's media landscape.

Price hike on ATF, commercial LPG cylinder amid war

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

THE ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine has begun to show its impact on India's domestic fuel prices as Oil Marketing Companies on Tuesday announced price hike on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) and commercial LPG cylinders. While ATF prices hit an all-time high across the country with a 3.3% rise, the cost of commercial LPG rose by ₹105 per 19 kilogram cylinder in Delhi. However, there is no hike in the price of diesel or petrol and home users LPG cylinder.

For ATF, this is the fifth hike in jet fuel in the past two months, following an unrelenting rise in global oil prices.

Brent crude oil, which was $105 per barrel last week following the Russia-Ukraine crisis, is now trading at $100.99 per barrel on Tuesday.

As per the price notification by fuel retailers, the price of ATF was hiked by ₹3,010.87 per kilolitre or 3.22% to ₹93,530.66 per kl in Delhi.

The previous peak was ₹71,028.26 per kl in August 2008 when international crude oil prices touched $147 per barrel. Jet fuel price changes on the 1st and 16th of every month based on the average price of the international benchmark in the preceding fortnight.

Cost impact

A 19kg commercial cylinder will cost ₹2,012 in Delhi and ₹2,095 in Kolkata from 1 March. The fuel retailers have cut the prices of 19 kg cylinder price by ₹91.50 on 1 February

Jet fuel makes up for almost 40% of the running cost of an airline.

"One major concern that continues to be a drag on the aviation sector is the aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices, which have seen a sharp increase of 59.9% on a Y-o-Y basis till February 2022. It is mainly attributed to the increase in crude oil prices. This, coupled with relatively low capacity utilisation of aircraft fleet, will continue to weigh on the financial performance of Indian carriers in FY2022. Furthermore, the credit profile of most Indian carriers continues to be characterised by a weak liquidity position," said ICRA, a rating agency.

Oil marketing companies have also hiked the price of 19 kg commercial LPG cylinders by ₹105 in Delhi and ₹108 in Kolkata.

With this hike, a 19kg commercial cylinder will cost ₹2,012 in Delhi and ₹2,095 in Kolkata respectively from 1 March. The fuel retailers have cut the prices of 19 kg commercial LPG cylinder price by ₹91.50 on 1 February.

However, there is no change in the petrol and diesel prices for a record 116th day in a row in the country.

Many believe the prices of petrol and diesel are to go up once the election is over in the five states. Petrol costs ₹95.41 a litre in Delhi and diesel is priced at ₹86.67.

MONTHLY GST

February GST collection at ₹1.33 lakh cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

THE monthly GST collection crossed ₹1.30 lakh crore for the fifth time in the current financial year as February (for January transactions) collections were at ₹1.33 lakh crore, 18% more than that of the same month previous year.

The gross GST collections in the first 10 months of 2021-22 have already reached ₹12.1 lakh crore, giving rare hopes that for the first time in five year, annual GST collections could end up at ₹15 lakh crore.

Of the ₹1,33,026 collected in February, ₹24,435 crore was collected as Central GST, ₹30,779 crore as State GST, ₹67,471 crore as integrated GST and ₹10,340 crore as compensation cess. The total revenue of Centre and the States in the month of February 2022 after regular IGST settlement is ₹50,782 crore and ₹52,688 crore, respectively. "February, being a 28-day month, normally witnesses revenues lower than that in January. This high growth during February 2022 should also be seen in the context of partial lockdowns, weekend and night curfews and various restrictions that were put in place by various States due to the omicron wave, which peaked around 20th January," the government said.

GST collections have shown robust growth in the current financial year signaling not just revival in economic activities in the aftermath of Covid-19, but also improved compliances.

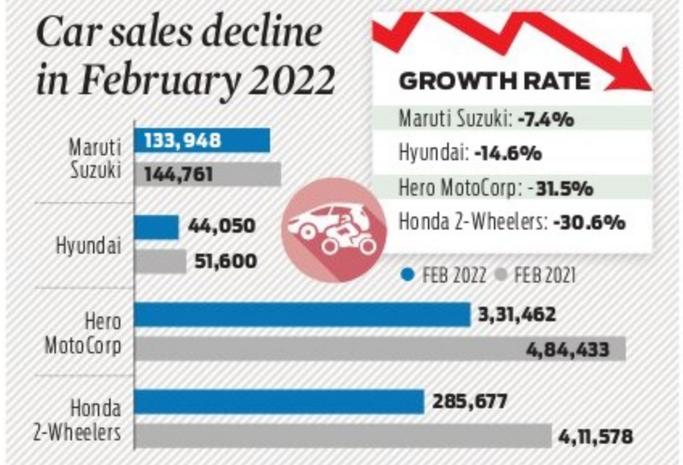
Car, two-wheeler sales see slump in February

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

HIT by global shortage of semiconductors that has lowered production level, two of India's largest carmakers once again reported decline in monthly sales.

Market leader Maruti Suzuki (MSIL) on Tuesday reported a 7.4% year-on-year decline in domestic passenger vehicle (PV) sales at 133,948 units in February 2022.

"The shortage of electronic components had a minor impact on the production of vehicles which are primarily sold in the domestic market. The company took all possible measures to minimise the impact," MSIL said in a regulatory filing. Last week CEO and MD Kenichi Ayukawa had said that barring supply side issues, the demand in the market looks promising. "Even today we have about 2.7 lakh bookings. We are making all efforts to fulfill this demand at the earliest and live up to the trust placed by our customers."



TWO-WHEELER SALES NOSE-DIVED IN FEBRUARY 2022

Hyundai, on the other hand, reported that its domestic sales were down 14.6% Y-o-Y to 44,050 units last month. It said that they are continuously exploring alternatives to ensure customers can take delivery of Hyundai cars at the earliest. Other carmakers such as Toyota and Honda also witnessed a drop in vehicle dispatches to dealers last month.

However, homegrown auto majors Tata Motors and Mahindra & Mahindra (who have been managing semiconductors issue fairly better) reported an increase in February sales. Skoda and MG Motor also reported positive numbers.

Tata Motor's PV sales in the domestic market last month rose by 47% to 39,981 units. Tata's February 2022 sales, however, were marginally lower than its January 2022 sales. Mahindra's PV sales rose by 80% Y-o-Y to 27,663 units last month.

Meanwhile, two-wheeler sales, hit by rising petrol prices and prolong rural distress, witnessed big slump in February 2022. Hero MotoCorp's domestic sales last month were also 31.57% Y-o-Y to 331,462 units while Honda 2Wheelers' domestic sales fell 30.6% to 285,677 units.

ASIANOMICS

HONG KONG

DOLLAR HITS 27-MONTH LOW ON FLUSH CASH, GRIM MOOD

The Hong Kong dollar struck its weakest level in more than two years on Tuesday, weighed down by abundant liquidity, US rate hike expectations and the Russia-Ukraine war. A rapidly spreading coronavirus outbreak in the city has also hit investor sentiment. By contrast, after last week's shock rocked financial markets and drove the safe haven dollar higher, broader currency markets were relatively calm on Tuesday amid the fast-moving Ukraine crisis. At its lowest point on Tuesday, the Hong Kong dollar traded at 7.8165 per dollar, its softest since December 2019. The ample liquidity conditions followed a decision by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), the city's de facto central bank, not to expand its Exchange Fund Bills (EFBs) issuance on Tuesday, said Ken Cheung, chief Asian FX strategist at Mizuho Bank. The HKMA has boosted issuance of EFBs at its weekly auctions in recent months to drain excess liquidity from the market.

PAKISTAN

FEBRUARY INFLATION RISES BY 12.2%

Pakistan's consumer price index (CPI) in February rose 12.2% from a year earlier, the statistics bureau said on Tuesday, easing slightly from a two-year high the previous month. In January, annual inflation was 13%. On a monthly basis, the inflation rate jumped by 1.2% in February compared with a 0.4% rise the previous month. On a monthly basis, the inflation rate jumped 1.2% in February, accelerating from a 0.4% rise the previous month. Prices of food and non-food items stayed on an upward trajectory though others such as eggs, potatoes, and sugar registered a slight decrease, the bureau said. Surging food and energy prices have put Khan under increasing pressure, especially from his middle-class support base. Khan announced a cut in petrol and electricity prices on Monday despite a steep rise in the global oil market, pledging to freeze the new rates until next budget.

PHILIPPINES

CENBANK TO MAINTAIN EASY MONEY POLICY

The Philippine central bank will maintain its easy monetary policy stance as it expects inflation to stay tame and for global and domestic growth situation to remain uncertain due to the Russia-Ukraine crisis, its governor said on Tuesday. "The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) will maintain its accommodative policy stance given a manageable inflation environment and emerging uncertainty surrounding domestic and global growth prospects," Governor Benjamin Diokno said in a virtual economic forum. The central bank, which next meets on March 24 to review policy, is widely expected to wait until the end of the year before raising interest rates from a record low of 2.0% to support an uneven economic recovery from the pandemic. Oil prices have soared as Russia's invasion of Ukraine continued to inflame global supply concerns. Pump prices have risen in the past nine weeks.

War fallout: Stock markets to trade choppy with a negative bias

RAM SAHGAL @ Mumbai

BENCHMARK indices could continue to remain choppy after Tuesday's holiday, taking cues from global markets buffeted by the fallout from the Ukraine war.

As Indian markets remained shut for the Mahashivratri holiday , European majors like Dax and Cac traded more than 2% down and Dow futures indicated a lower opening for the US index , at the time of writing.

The Singapore-based SGX Nifty traded 200 points off its high at 16754 , lower than the Nifty closing of 16793.9 on Monday.

Foreign investors have been selling hand-over-fist in the cash market, even as they remain net long index futures like Nifty and Bank Nifty, indicating that they are buying futures against cash sales, to benefit from any potential bounce.

In the fiscal year through date, they've sold shares worth $13.1 billion, the highest ever, shows NSDL data.

At the same time, they remain cumulatively net buyers of index futures to the tune of 26,395 contacts.

Russia has offered to hold another round of talks with Ukraine on Wednesday and global markets will pin their hopes on these for any positive outcome, said Hormuz Maloo, director, AFco Investments.

The Nifty is trading almost 10% off its record high of 18604.45 on October 19 last year. The Nifty Midcap is trading 15% off its record high, which indicates both indices are in correction mode. A stock or an index enters correction mode when it trades 10% below its high and a bear market when it trades 20% or more below its record high .

The US Dow Jones, comprising the top 30 US companies, traded 8.3% off its record high as of Monday.

> **Russia has offered to hold another round of talks with Ukraine on Wednesday and global markets will pin their hopes on these for any positive outcome**
>
> Hormuz Maloo, director, AFco Investments

EXPRESS READ

Reliance Retail invests in Abraham & Thakore

New Delhi: Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance group on Tuesday said its retail arm has invested in luxury fashion house Abraham & Thakore for an undisclosed majority stake, strengthening the line of lifestyle brands under its umbrella. For almost 15 years the brand mostly retailed predominantly in international stores.

PNB to make PPS mandatory

New Delhi: In a move to protect the bank customers against large value cheque frauds, Punjab National Bank (PNB) to make Positive Pay System (PPS) mandatory from April 4, 2022. As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines, PNB had introduced PPSfor cheques of ₹ 50 Thousand and above presented in CTS clearing from January 1, 2021.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

Current Price
₹351.15

Target Price
₹450

DLF

We were positive on DLF's future prospects given their renewed focus on residential business with strong 35msf launch pipeline and steady scale-up in their rental portfolio. After a 12% price hike across the projects in 9MFY22, it is further planning to take 10-12% hike in its key projects. With strong 35msf (5msf launched) of identified launch pipeline, new sales value will continue its growth trajectory and deliver 40% CAGR to `85b through FY21-24E.

—Motilal Oswal Financial Services

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *TNIE*.

CIL PRODUCES 64.3 MTS OF COAL IN FEB

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

STATE owned Coal India Limited on Tuesday informed that it has produced 64.3 million tonnes (MTs) of coal in February, a growth of 4% compared to the year ago period.

The company said its all out efforts are focused on ending this fiscal in the realm of 630 MTs. The total production of coal last year in February was 61.9 MTs.

"Month-on-month, CIL's average production increased to 2.3 MTs per day in February'22. So, despite being three days lesser than January the sequential production in February was at par with the previous month," said CIL in a statement.

The company said its production at 542.4 MTs during April-February fiscal year 22 was a historic high for this period. Coal output surged ahead by 27.3 MTs in absolute terms on a year-on-year comparison.

"The company expects to post the highest ever production by the closure of FY'22, going past the previous high of 607 MTs recorded in FY'19" said a senior executive of the company.

CIL's off-take in February has recorded a strong 12% double-digit growth at 57.4 MTs against the same month last year.

The gain in absolute terms was 6.2 MTs. Progressive till February FY'22, CIL's total off-take was nearly 600 MTs. The company said earlier only once the off-take has crossed that mark when CIL despatched 608 MTs in FY'19, which is highest to the date.

Roy pulls out of IPL citing bubble fatigue

England's flamboyant batter Jason Roy on Tuesday pulled out of the upcoming IPL citing extended stay in the tournament bubble, dealing a blow to his new franchise Gujarat Titans weeks before the event gets going. The 31-year-old South African-born English cricketer was signed by Gujarat Titans for his base price of ₹2 crore at the mega auction.

POTENTIAL X-FACTOR

After an injury-ridden start, all-rounder has turned the tide ahead of the global event

GOMESH S @ Chennai

Fast bowler Pooja Vastrakar (L) claimed three wickets in India's second warm-up match against West Indies on Tuesday, helping them win by 81 runs | TWITTER

IRRESPECTIVE of whether it's men's or women's cricket, India's search for fast bowling all-rounders is a never-ending story. And, since the exit of Rumeli Dhar, India's struggle to find a multi-dimensional player to fill that hole – one who can bat, bowl and field has continued. At least, until Pooja Vastrakar broke into the scene in the late-2010s. Having made her List-A debut in 2013, the lanky Madhya Pradesh all-rounder rose through the ranks rapidly in the next few years. However, her road to the top wasn't a featherbed. Like many Indian pacers, she suffered from a series of injuries before her international career even began.

First, there was a lower back injury in 2016, followed by a major knee injury that required surgery the following year, and then, when her international call-up finally came in 2018, the celebration was cut short with another ACL tear. Back in the squad in 2019, Vastrakar largely warmed the bench through the 2020 T20 World Cup. Finally, a grade-two tear in hamstring injury followed the Covid-19 pandemic meant that Vastrakar did not get a long enough rope to establish herself in the side.

ICC WOMEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP NEW ZEALAND 2022
2
DAYS TO GO

Reflecting on the all-rounder's stop-start career so far, former India head coach WV Raman recently said that during his tenure, Vastrakar's body was often her worst enemy. "There was no question about talent. She is very athletic, perhaps the fastest in the setup and can tonk the ball quite a bit," he added. However — at only 21 — Vastrakar was determined to turn the tide come 2021. She was picked for the England tour; handed her Test debut, but this time, the team management was mindful of her workload. She bowled just 14 overs in the Test match, showing much promise; but it was clear there was still work to be done. Ahead of India's tour to Australia, India had a preparatory camp in Bangalore where head coach Ramesh Powar focussed on the pacers.

"Whatever we have, Meghna (Singh) or Pooja, we are not just focussing on Meghna, there is Pooja, who is an all-rounder, and we are looking forward to her skillset," he said.

That work paid immediate dividends Down Under. She bowled 27 overs in the pink-ball Test, taking four wickets, and almost completed her quota of overs in two ODIs. More importantly, she was making an impact: 8 wickets in the series across formats and some handy lower-order contributions too. "With Powar sir, I worked on my load up and extended my right arm a little bit because of my front-arm action, and it has helped a lot."

In a World Cup where India will face seven different teams, there will be instances where they will need that extra firepower down the order. And with Vastrakar peaking at the right time, she could be X-factor India are looking for. **BRIEF SCORES:** India 258 (Mandhana 66) bt Windies 177/9 (Campbelle 63; Vastrakar 3/21).

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Smoking gun: Gold for Saurabh, silver for Esha

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

'SAURABH Chaudhary wins gold'. That has been a recurrent theme ever since his junior days. Spring, summer, fall or winter, Saurabh has so far proven to be the man for all seasons. Granted, he couldn't do the same during the Olympics. But one must remember that he's just 19 and he at least made it to the final in Tokyo (which in itself is an achievement; ask the shooters, young and old).

Tuesday was another day Saurabh made headlines with his pistol. Displaying his giant appetite yet again, he clinched the men's 10m air pistol gold at the ongoing ISSF World Cup in Cairo. Going by the ISSF website, it was Saurabh's 15th gold of his career (some of the medals came during his junior/youth days). In total, he has an impressive 25 medals (7 silver and 3 bronze). A lot has been written about him, his thought process, his habit, his routines. His medal-winning calibre continues to boggle minds.

"He does not get bogged down by unwanted thoughts. He had entered the Olympics as any other event and had just fallen short. He had experienced similar setbacks in the past on a few occasions. So it didn't make much of a difference to him as he knew this is the nature of the sport. After returning home, he continued to work on his shooting like he had been doing in the past," Saurabh's elder brother Nitin said, when asked what keeps him ticking.

Saurabh Chaudhary

Esha Singh

Instead of mourning over the Olympic miss, Saurabh did what he does best — work hard and train. He reaped his reward during the President's Cup a few months later. Despite tricky times during Covid third wave, his focus remained intact. Saurabh continued to keep in touch with national coach Samaresh Jung in a bid to stay sharp. Something that was visible on Tuesday. Battling against Michael Schwald of Germany in the gold medal match, Saurabh, after a slow start, made a strong finish to walk away with the top prize. Later in the day, Esha Singh, who was making her first appearance in the senior World Cup, put up an impressive display to return with a silver medal. After finishing sixth in the qualification stage, Esha topped the opening part of the final stage to enter the medal round. There, she kept up her form to survive elimination stages and make it to the gold medal match. Up against Anna Korakaki, Esha made a slow start and just couldn't cope with the pressure.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Have to fight to win vs Danes: Coach

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Chennai

THE Davis Cup World Group I Playoff tie between Denmark and India is important from an Indian perspective. It's no hyperbole to suggest that this is one of the country's biggest in recent years. Coach Zeeshan Ali, who has been with the squad at a camp in New Delhi since February 23, agrees. In an interview with this daily, Ali speaks about the tie, how the camp went and the combinations that are in play with two days to go.

Teams: India: Ramkumar Ramanathan, Prajnesh Gunneswaran, Yuki Bhambri, Divij Sharan, Rohan Bopanna **Captain** Rohit Rajpal
Denmark: Mikael Torpegaard, Johannes Ingildsen, Christian Sigsgaard, Elmer Moller, Frederik Nielsen **Captain** Nielsen

On the camp

We had a small camp from February 23. Because most of the boys had played in the Challengers (in Bengaluru), they came on the 23rd itself. The ones who were playing in Dubai (ATP 500) joined later. It was a good opportunity to get used to the grass at the Delhi Gymkhana. It was a good camp. We still have two days to go so by Friday, all the players should have settled in nicely.

On the importance of the tie

Any Davis Cup tie is special but this one is very important and the players know that. If they lose this tie, it will take two years to get back to this level (for all practical purposes this tie can be considered as a relegation playoff.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Sreeshankar pips Anees, marks return in style

MARTIN JOSPEH @ Kochi

AS expected, it turned out to be a hotly-contested battle between M Sreeshankar and Muhammed Anees Yahiya in the long jump event of the 1st Indian Open Jumps Competition at the Chandrasekharan Nair Stadium on Tuesday.

Sreeshankar went on to pip Anees to the top spot with a jump of 8.17m as the national record holder looks to be slowly getting back to form after his poor show at the Tokyo Games. It was also his third-best jump ever to mark his return to action.

Anees wasn't far behind as he finished second with a jump of 8.15m. Yugant Shekar Singh of Uttar Pradesh came a distant third with a performance of 7.61m.

"I was aware that there was a lot of focus on me and I felt I had a point to prove. Following all the talk after the Olympics about my performance, my father (who is his coach) and I really wanted to put in a good performance. It was a good rivalry with Anees today and he did push me to perform better and gave me a scare. I am glad that I was able to do well and now I am really focused on the season ahead. I need to try and go past my own personal best," said Sreeshankar.

After Sreeshankar had produced a jump of 8.14m in his first attempt, Anees bettered it with a performance of 8.15m with his last jump to put the pressure back on his rival.

Kerala's M Sreeshankar in action at the Chandrasekharan Nair Stadium

Sreeshankar went on to produce a winning jump of 8.17m and with that, he now has three of the four best jumps by an Indian. The 22-year-old feels that it was important to have a strong start to the season, especially with a lot of big events coming up.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

RESULTS (WINNERS): 1ST INDIAN OPEN JUMPS COMPETITION

MEN: Long Jump: Sreeshankar (Ker) 8.17m; High Jump: Chethan Balasubramanya (Kar) 2.09m; Triple Jump: Eldhose Paul (Ker) 16.93m; Pole Vault: Avneesh Kumar (UP) 4.90m; **WOMEN:** High Jump: Abhinaya Shetty (Kar) 1.82m; Long Jump: Ancy Sojan (Ker) 6.51m; Triple Jump: Aleena Jose (Ker) 12.68m; Pole Vault: Pavithra Venkatesh (TN) 3.90m.

EXPRESS READ

Customs & GST beat SAI

BENGALURU: Customs & GST beat Sports Authority of India 4-2 in the Hockey Karnataka League Championship at the FMKMC Hockey Arena in Bengaluru on Tuesday. Thimmanna PL scored a brace while Nachappa I.R and Biddappa managed a goal each to secure the win. Mohd Fahad and Thrishul Ganapathy found the back of the net for SAI.

Darshan, Ajay shine with ton in win

BENGALURU: Youth Cricket Club defeated SSK Cricket Club by 229 runs in the KSCA Group I - V Division League for JB Mallaradhya Trophy. Ajay HS scored an amazing 138 off 54 balls, which comprised of 15 fours and eight sixes. Darshan BR Krishna also scored a ton helping his team score 394 for 5 in 50 overs. Janardhan BG scalped five to dismiss SSK for 165 runs.

India vs Eng in Women's Hockey WC on July 3

BHUBANESWAR: India will open its campaign in this year's FIH Women's Hockey World Cup against England on July 3, two days after the tournament opens in Spain and the Netherlands. The schedule was announced by the International Hockey Federation on Tuesday. Placed in Pool B, India will face China on July 5 and New Zealand on July 7. India will play all their pool matches at Wagener Hockey Stadium in Amstelveen.

Senior national chess: Five players share lead

KANPUR: The MPL 58th Senior National Chess Championship is heading for an exciting finish as five players are leading the point table with six and half points each with just three rounds remaining in the event hosted by Uttar Pradesh Chess Sports Association. In the crucial eighth round on Tuesday morning, Tamil Nadu Grandmaster P Iniyan outwitted top seed B Adhiban while P Pranav shocked grandmaster Deep Sengupta.

Crowd allowed for Kohli's 100th Test at Mohali

CHENNAI: Virat Kohli's 100th Test will have upto 50 per cent of crowds, the Board of Control for Cricket in India confirmed on Tuesday. "The first Test between India and Sri Lanka to be played at the Punjab Cricket Stadium in Mohali will not be held behind closed doors," BCCI secretary, Jay Shah, said in a statement. Earlier, it was announced that the Test will happen without crowds, which created an uproar among fans.

PUBLIC NOTICE - FORM NO URC-2

Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Act

[Pursuant to section 374(b) of Companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the Companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014]

1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application is proposed to be made after fifteen days hereof but before the expiry of thirty days hereinafter to the Registrar at Karnataka that **"DRONGO AI LLP", a LLP** may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as a Company limited by shares.

2. The Principal objects of the Company are as follows: -

To carry on the business of software and hardware technologies for computer vision and artificial intelligence solutions and other business incidental to the main activity of the company.

3. A copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at **No.248, 4th Main Road, Chamrajpet, Bangalore 560018.**

4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the **Registrar at Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot No. 6,7,8, Sector 5, IMT Manesar, District Gurgaon (Haryana), Pin Code – 122050,** within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to **Drongo AI LLP at its Registered Office.**

Dated this 2nd day of March 2022.

Name(s) of Applicants:
1. Pranav Vajapeyam
2. Raveesh Nandakumar
3. Ranga Raju Rajesh Kumar

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that my client **SRI. NIMHAL ASHWINI KUMAR,** S/o Sri. Ashwini Kumar, R/at Flat -A, Cosy Nest Apartments, 2nd Main, 3rd Cross, S.G. Palya, C.V.Raman Nagar, Bangalore-560093 has negotiated to purchase house property from its owner **SMT. CHITRA DESIKAN,** W/o Sri. S. Desikan, R/at Municipal New No. 441/B, 4th Cross, 6th Main, HAL 3RD Stage, Bangalore, Having its BBMP PID.No.74-8-441/B, Ward No. 74, Schedule Property purchased from BDA through a registered Sale Deed dated. 28.02.1994, described in the Schedule hereunder written and referred to as the Schedule Property from its original owner/title holder.

Any person/institutions claiming to have any right, title, interest, charge, lieu or minor claim whatsoever over the schedule property may lodge his/her/their/its claim to the undersigned with all documentary proof within **FIFTEEN (15) DAYS** of this publication, failing which it will be presumed that there are no objections/claims or disputes in respect of the schedule property. My client shall proceed to get the schedule property conveyed in his favour, no claim shall be entertained thereafter.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Residential House Property bearing Municipal New No. 441/B, 4th Cross, 6th Main, HAL 3RD Stage, Bangalore, having its BBMP PID.No.74-8-441/B, Ward No. 74, Measuring East West: (21.35 Mtrs + 18.25 Mtrs) / 2 and South North: (9.35 Mtrs + 9.10 Mtrs) / 2 along with Duplex House constructed thereon approximately about 24 Squares, and bounded on the :

East by : Road;
West by : Site No. 438;
North by : Site No. 440/B & 441/A &
South by : Site No. 441/C:

B. RAVINDRANATH, Advocate
M/s. LEXAXIS, Advocates & Legal Consultants
No.15, "Namma Mane" 3rd Cross, Chowdaiah Block, R.T.Nagar, Bangalore-560032, M: 9886897828, Email : 1975ravindra@gmail.com

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KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No : SE(E)/AEE(C)/Tr(W&M).C/DVG/21-22/CYS-161 Dated: 24.02.2022

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites Bids against this enquiry No.SEE/AEE(C)/Trans(W&M)/DVG/21-22/CYS-161 Dated 24.02.2022 for the works coming in the Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Davanagere. The detailed notification regarding the works called through E-Procurement mode can be obtained from the E-Procurement Portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 03.03.2022 at 12.00 Hrs onwards.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (E), Transmission (W & M) Circle, KPTCL, Hadadi Road, Opp: Stadium, Davanagere - 577002. Ph No.: 08192-250774.

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 - Sent on **31-01-2022** by Registered Post with acknowledgment due and the same was **returned by all.** Hence this

No.1) Mr. A. Manjunath, S/o. Mr. Anjanappa, No.74/2, Ayyappa Block, Near Ayyappa Temple, Manonaryanapalaya, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560032. No.2) Mrs. Bhagya, W/o. Mr. A. Manjunath, No.74/2, Ayyappa Block, Near Ayyappa Temple, Manonaryanapalaya, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560032.

Dear Sir/ Madam

Sub: Loan account / Overdraft with **City Union Bank Limited, Bangalore-R.T. Nagar Branch** in the name of **Mr. A. Manjunath.**

The Bank issued notice under the SARFAESI Act on **31-01-2022** calling upon Nos.1 &2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080071277 is **Rs.3,46,327/- (Rupees Three Lakh Forty Six Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty Seven Only),** Nos.1 & 2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080035864 is **Rs.22,00,202/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakh Two Hundred and Two Only)** as on **26-01-2022** with further interest for 501812080035864 at **11.50%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080071277 at **10.00%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), with monthly rests from **27-01-2022** till the date of repayment. The Notice sent to you by Registered Post have been **returned by all.**

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon Nos.1 &2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080071277 is **Rs.3,46,327/- (Rupees Three Lakh Forty Six Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty Seven Only),** Nos.1 & 2 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080035864 is **Rs.22,00,202/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakh Two Hundred and Two Only)** with further interest for 501812080035864 at **11.50%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080071277 at **10.00%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), with monthly rests from **27-01-2022** till date of repayment within 60 days from the date of this notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the schedule hereunder. This Notice is published / issued without prejudice to any other right / remedy available to the Bank.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A: (Property Owned by Mr. A. Manjunath, S/o. Mr. Anjanappa)

All that piece and parcel of the immovable Property, New Municipal No.15, PID No.95-10-95, A.K. Colony, Sultanpalya, Bangalore, Ward No.95, BBMP Ward No.32 (earlier House No.26, Sultanpalya, Matadahalli Dakale, Kasaba Hobli, Corporation Division No.46, Bangalore), measuring:- East to West 20 feet and North to South 20 feet. Totally measuring 400 Sq.ft., together with Residential House Constructed thereon and is bounded on the:- East by - House belonging to Munihanumappa, West by - House belonging to Babuappa, North by - Road, South by - Road.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date: 25-02-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

AXIS BANK LIMITED | **Plot No.41, Seshadri Road, Anand Rao Circle, Bangalore-560009.**

APPENDIX-IV [Rule-8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE

WHEREAS, the Authorized Officer of the **Axis Bank Ltd** (Formerly known as UTI Bank Ltd.), having its Registered Office: "TRISHUL", Opposite Samartheswar Temple, Near Law, Garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006, among other places its Branch office at **Axis Bank Ltd., Plot No.41, Seshadri Road, Anand Rao Circle, Bangalore-560009,** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act calling upon the Borrower/ Guarantors/ Mortgagors:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Applicant / Co-Applicant/ Guarantors/ Ac.No.	Liability in Rs.	Details of Mortgaged Immovable Property
1	**1. Mrs. Surekha Murugesh (Applicant),** No.1593, 2nd floor, Rajalakshmi Nivas, 3rd Cross, Near Murugan Temple Street, Vijanapura, Bangalore-560016, Also at, No.24/161, Ranganathapuram Street, Nurani Palakkad Nurani, Palakkad, Kerala-678004. Also at, **Escalation Co-ordinator, 1BM India Pvt Ltd.,** Embassy Golf Link Business Park, C-Block, Intermediate, Rina Road, Domlur, Bangalore-560071. Also at, H.No.33, Property No.66/1, Old Khata No.289, New Khata No.342, Sl.No.1587, 2nd Cross, Murgan Temple, Vijanpura, K.R.Puram, Bangalore-560016. **2. Mr. Subramanian Venkitachalam (Co-Applicant),** No.1593, 2nd Floor, Rajalakshmi Nivas, 3rd Cross, Near Murugan, Temple Street, Vijanapura, Bangalore-560016. Also at, No.24/161, Ranganathapuram Street, Nurani Palakkad Nurani, Palakkad, Kerala-678004. Also at, Asstt. Mangaer Operations, Concentrire Daksha Services India Private Ltd., Block No. D4, Manyata Embassy Business Park, Manyata Tech Park, Bangalore-560045. Also at, H.No.33, Property No.66/1, Old Khata No. 289, New Khata No.342, Sl.No. 1587, 2nd Cross, Murgan Temple, Vijanpura, K.R.Puram, Bangalore-560016. **A/c No.: LPR000903075677, Demand Notice Dated: 13.08.2021, Possession taken on: 24-02-2022**	**Rs.5,204,942/- (Rupees Fifty Two Lakhs Four Thousand Nine hundred Forty Two Only)** being the amount due as on 12.08.2021 and interest thereon.	All that piece & parcel of the residential House property bearing Site No.33, formed out of Property No.66/1, old katha no. 289, New Katha No. 342, situated at House No. 1587, 2nd Cross, Murgan Temple Street, Vijayapura village, Krishanrajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Now under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore, earlier under the limits of Krishnarajapura City Municipal Council, Bangalore, Measuring: East to West: 31 feet, North to South: 40 feet. Totally in all measuring 1240 Sq.ft and property **being bounded on the: East by:** Bandappa's Land, **West by:** Site No. 34, **North by:** Property No.48, **South by:** 20 feet Road. The Schedule property consist of Ground Floor and First Floor measuring 19 Squares of RCC roofed house with mosaic flooring, doors and windows are made of Hanne wood with all civic amenities. **For any clarification please contact Mr. Thrimoorthy +919036773553.**
2	**Mr. Sukesh S,** #38 & 39, Hoodi Layout, Muneshwara Temple Road, Amruthahalli, Sahakarnagar Post, Bangalore-560092. And also at: **S.K.Enterprises,** Old No.93 & 94, No.160, Opp to Patel Calysto Apmt, 2nd B Main, Talakaveri Layout, Amruthahalli, Bangalore-560092 **(Applicant/Mortgager). Mrs. Kruthika Sukesh,** #38 & 39, Hoodi Layout, Muneshwara Temple Road, Amruthahalli, Sahakarnagar Post, Bangalore-560092. And also at: **Kruthika Enterprises,** No.93 & 94, Opp to Patel Calysto Apmt, 2nd B Main, Talakaveri Layout, Amruthahalli, Bangalore-560092 **(Co-Applicant/ Mortgager). A/c No.: PHR168805788903, Demand Notice Dated: 10.09.2021, Possession taken on: 24-02-2022**	**Rs.8,203,919/- (Rupees Eighty Two Lakhs Three Thousand Nine Hundred Nineteen Only)** being the amount due as on 8.09.2021 and interest thereon.	All that piece and parcel of the immovable vacant property bearing Site No.73, (Eastern Portion), Presently bearing Katha No.1050/746/73 issued by the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, in the layout formed by **"Talakaveri"** Gruha Nirmana Sahakara Sangha Niyamitha (Regd.) Bangalore, as per the plan approved by the Bangalore Development Authority in several survey numbers of Amruthahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, the layout know as **"Talakaveri Nagar",** measuring East to West: 30 Feet, North to South: 40-0Feet, totally 1200 Sq.Ft. **and bounded on the: East by:** Site No.72, **West by:** Remaining Portion of the same. **Site No.73 Belongs to Smt. Sowmya K.U.: North by:** Site No.74, **South by:** Previous R.F.D. Property presently there is converted a 25 feet Road. **For any clarification please contact Mr. Ekantharaju +918152053027.**
3	**Mr. M.R. Prathapasimha, S/o M.R. Madhugondanahalli,** Partner, Yoga Property Developers, 113/A, 5th Cross, 2nd Phase, M.N.Vishwa Bharathi Housing Co-Op. Layout, Girinagar, Hosakrehalli-Village, Uttarahalli, Ward No. 54, Bangalore-560085 **(Applicant/ Mortgager). Mrs. Yogamala P, W/o M.R.Prathapasimha,** Partner, Yoga Property Developers, 113/A, 5th Cross, 2nd Phase, M.N.Vishwa Bharathi Housing Co-Op. Layout, Girinagar, Hosakrehalli-Village, Uttarahalli, Ward No.54, Bangalore-560085 **(Co-Applicant/Mortgager). A/c No.: PHR000902818986, Demand Notice Dated: 09.09.2021, Possession taken on: 24-02-2022**	**Rs.22,029,422/- (Rupees Two Crores Twenty Lakhs Twenty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Two Only)** being the amount due as on 8.09.2021 and interest thereon.	**SCHEDULE-A:** All that piece and parcel of property of residential land bearing BBMP Khatha no. No.380, earlier bearing Sy. No. 142, (Converted for non- agricultural/residential purposes) measuring in total 20,342 Sq.Mtrs or 5 Acrs 01 guntas, situated at Hoodi Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk **and bounded on the: East by:** Road and property bearing Sy.No.143, **West by:** Lake, **North by:** Property bearing Sy.No.141, **South by:** Property bearing Sy. No.146. **SCHEDULE-B:** 1024 Sq.ft of undivided share, title and interest and ownership in schedule-'A' property. **SCHEDULE-C:** All that Residential Apartment bearing No.A-902, on 9th Floor, in 'A' Wing of Block-1 in the residential complex **"The Five Summits Address"** and 3025 sq. ft of super built up area which is inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases, services areas shafts and other areas of common use with right to use and enjoy two Covered Car Parking Spaces in the Basement. **For any clarification please contact Mr. Thrimoorthy S +91 9036773553.**

to repay the above mentioned liabilities in the respective Demand Notices within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under section 13(4) read with Rule 8 of the security interest (Enoforcement) rules, 2002, on date mentioned as above. The Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the **Axis Bank Limited,** for an amount specified in the above notice with future interest, other expenses thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date: 24-02-2022, Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorised Officer, Axis Bank Limited**

AN EASY TARGET

Pangolins move at a waddle and have no jaws or teeth. They roll up into a hedgehog-like ball when threatened. Their scales provide protection

But humans can simply pick pangolins up and carry them off.

Also, over 40 per cent of Liberia is covered in rainforest and its governance system is weak

The country is also still recovering from brutal civil wars from 1989 to 2003, and the 2014-16 Ebola crisis

Patchy data hamper conservation efforts too. Pangolins are solitary and reclusive, and their number in the wild remains a mystery

$355

A 2020 study by the Netherlands-based Wildlife Justice Commission said that a kilogramme of pangolins scales can sell for $355 in China

EXFILE • ECOLOGY

THE PANGOLIN TRADE IN LIBERIA

Clutching single-barrelled rifles in lush northern Liberia, people await the dark to hike into the jungle. They then hunt banned bushmeat or catch the much sought after pangolins for money. Here's how these scale-covered mammals might be vanishing from the last few territories of their presence

PANGOLINS

Believed to be the world's most trafficked animal, pangolins are only found in the wild in Asia and Africa, but their numbers are plummeting under pressure from poaching

They are scale-covered insect-eating mammals that are typically the size of a full-grown cat, are mostly active at night, snuffling through deadwood for ants and termites

WHY HUNT THESE INSECT-EATERS?

The species is under increasing threat worldwide but remains a delicacy in the impoverished West African country

Their scales — made of keratin, like human nails — are also prized by consumers abroad for their supposed medicinal properties, fetching much-needed money.

Asian pangolins once met the strong demand in East Asian countries such as China and Vietnam, where the animal's scales are used in traditional concoctions

WHY AFRICA?

The continent became the major source for the trade from 2013, according to the UN's drugs and crime office UNODC, in a shift likely prompted by falling pangolin numbers in Asia

THE ORIGIN MARKETS

Liberia, as well as Nigeria, Cameroon and Guinea are the places of the origin of the illegal trade

A pangolin rescued the same day sits on top of a box in the Libassa Wildlife Sanctuary on the outskirts of Monrovia on November 19, 2021

10X

Seizures of pangolin scales have also increased tenfold since 2014, says the UN's drugs and crime office

$5K

In 2016, Liberia had banned unlicenced hunting of protected species, imposing up to six months in prison or a max **$5,000** fine

A woman displays a bowl of Pangolin scales, ready to be sold on the outskirts of Bopolu on November 14

UP TO 8.5 MILLION

A 2020 study by the US Agency for International Development estimated that between **6,50,000** & **8.5 mn** pangolins were removed from the wild between 2009 & 2020

COMMON IN SOME VILLAGES

In rural Liberia, there are a few signs of the government enforcing anti-poaching laws

Pangolin scales were ubiquitous in three villages in northern Gbarpolu County

Many villagers had small bags stashed in wattle-and-daub homes. Some even had sacks full

HUNTING FOR SUBSISTENCE

Villagers hunt down these animals since there were no jobs, and they did not understand why the practice was illegal. The money often goes towards basic necessities such as soap

Climate panel flags Great Barrier Reef devastation

If bleaching continues, IPCC estimates 10,000 jobs and AU$1 billion in revenue will be lost every year from declines in tourism alone

CLIMATE CHANGE

SYDNEY: It was the silence of the sea that first rattled the teenage snorkeler, followed by a sense of horror as she saw the coral below had been drained of its kaleidoscopic color. This once-vibrant site on Australia's Great Barrier Reef 'a site she'd previously likened to a busy capital city' had become a ghost town, the victim of yet another mass bleaching event.

On that day in 2020, Ava Shearer got out of the water and cried. Today, with the release of a United Nations climate report that paints a dire picture of the Great Barrier Reef's future, the now-17-year-old marine science student and snorkeling guide wonders what will be left of the imperiled ecosystem by the time she finishes her degree at Australia's James Cook University. "I definitely worry about it," says Shearer, who grew up along the World Heritage-listed natural wonder off Australia's northeast coast. "I fear there might not be anything for me to study."

There is much for the world to fear in Monday's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, which bluntly states that the Great Barrier Reef is in crisis and suffering grave impacts from climate change, with frequent and severe coral bleaching caused by warming ocean temperatures. The worst bleaching event, in 2016, affected over 90% of the reef, and a punishing succession of bleaching incidents has left the northern and middle portion of the reef system in a 'highly degraded state', the report said.

The Great Barrier Reef is the largest living structure on the planet so large, in fact, that it is the only living thing on earth visible from space. It stretches over 2,300km (1,400m) and is home to more than 1,500 species of tropical fish, plus dolphins, whales, birds, and even

giant, century-old clams. Pre-pandemic, it contributed 6.4 billion Australian dollars (US$4.6 billion) to the economy every year, largely thanks to tourism, and typically supports around 64,000 jobs. That bleaching will continue along the reef is a virtual certainty, according to the IPCC. Perhaps even more ominously, the report suggests it may simply be too late to stop bleaching entirely. Even if the global community achieves its goal of limiting future warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius since pre-industrial times, that still wouldn't be sufficient to prevent more frequent mass bleaching events, though it may reduce their occurrence, the IPCC found.

The report predicts that ocean warming and marine heatwaves will cause the loss and degradation of tropical shallow coral reefs, leading to 'widespread destruction' of coral reef ecosystems. The report points to three previous mass bleaching events from 2016 to 2020 that caused significant coral loss, and warns that there has been 'mass mortality' of some coral species.

For those who struggle to understand how devastating bleaching is, diver Tony Fontes likens it to a wildfire under the ocean. Fontes, who recently retired after 40 years as a diving instructor on the Great Barrier Reef, remembers diving on reefs that had recently been bleached and swimming through water that had turned milky-white from dead coral tissue.

"You sit on the boat trying to wash it off and you just realize you've just swum across a reef that a couple weeks ago was full of life and vibrant and now a bushfire has gone through it and the coral is dead, and the rest of the marine life will just have to move on or die off," he says. The consequences of inaction go beyond the ecological to the economical: If bleaching persists, the IPCC estimates 10,000 jobs and AU$1 billion in revenue would be lost every year from declines in tourism alone. *AP*

FACT OF THE MATTER

Pfizer vax less effective in kids

HEALTH

The effectiveness of the Pfizer Covid vaccine for children waned quickly during Omicron surge in the US, especially among 5 to 11 years olds, but the preventive was still protective against severe disease, according to a study. Researchers from New York State Department of Health and the University at Albany School of Public Health estimated effectiveness of vax against Covid cases and hospitalisations. They used data from 852,384 fully-vaxed 12-17 years kids and 365,502 aged 5-11 during December, 2021 and January, 2022. The yet-to-be peer-reviewed study, posted on the preprint repository MedRxiv, found that the effectiveness against Omicron fell from 68 per cent to just 12 per cent in 5 to 11 years within one month of being fully vaccinated.

Free-at-home tests in the US

COVID

The White House says 40% of Covid-19 tests ordered through its programme to distribute free at-home rapid tests have gone to Americans in distressed areas. That's an upward revision from an estimate of around 20% of free tests ordered by people in 'high vulnerability Zip Codes' that White House officials had earlier provided to The Associated Press. Earlier this year, President Joe Biden announced that his administration would make available 500 million free Covid tests. The US Postal Service was tapped to deliver the packages of four free tests per household. The White House says Americans have placed 68 million orders for tests, which leaves about 46% of the stock of tests still available to be ordered.

Unusual weather pattern this time

CLIMATE

Above normal maximum temperatures are "most likely" over many places in western as well as adjoining areas of central and northwest India and parts of the northeast during the March to May period, the IMD said on Tuesday. The number of heat waves in Indo-Gangetic plains is likely to be lower than normal during the period, the India Meteorological Department said. It also said the maximum temperatures are likely to remain above normal in Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, major parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and adjoining areas of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. Above normal temperatures are expected in the extreme northeast areas of the country. No heat wave is predicted in March in the northern plains.

Man saved after clinging to ice chunk

GENEOLOGY

ANCHORAGE: An Alaska man walking on a shoreline wound up clinging to a chunk of ice for more than 30 minutes in frigid water when the shoreline ice broke loose and carried him out into Cook Inlet.

Jaime Snedden, 45, of Homer, was rescued Saturday near the community of Anchor Point on the Kenai Peninsula. He was taken to a hospital, where he was treated for hypothermia. He was expected to fully recover, Alaska Wildlife Troopers said.

Snedden 'was reported to have been walking along the shoreline on the ice when it broke free and drifted into Cook Inlet with the outgoing current,' Troopers spokesman Tim DeSpain said in an email to The Associated Press on Monday.

Snedden was swept about 300 yards out into the inlet, near the mouth of the Anchor River. Alaska Wildlife Trooper Jeremy Baum arrived and saw only Snedden's head and arms visible above water as he clung to the ice chunk. *AP*

EXTREME MEASURES

People wade through flood water as they relocate in Chinderah, Australia, on Tuesday. Thousands of people have been ordered to evacuate their homes as parts of southwest coast are inundated by worst floods | AP

'Neem extract may help treat, cut Covid spread'

MEDICINE

NEW DELHI: Extract from the bark of the Neem tree may help treat and reduce the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, according to a study led by researchers at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata.

The Neem tree, indigenous to India, has been used for thousands of years for its anti-parasitic, anti-bacterial and antiviral properties, the researchers said. The bark extract has helped treat malaria, stomach and intestinal ulcers, skin diseases and many other diseases, they said. The latest study, published recently in the journal Virology, shows that components of Neem bark may target a wide range of viral proteins, suggesting its potential as an antiviral agent against emerging variants of coronaviruses, including SARS-CoV-2.

"The goal of this research is to develop a Neem-based medication that can reduce the risk of serious illness when someone is infected with coronaviruses," said study co-author Maria Nagel, a professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, US. "We hope that scientists won't have to continuously develop new therapies every time a new SARS-CoV-2 variant emerges," she said.

Just like how people take penicillin for strep throat, the researchers envision taking the Neem-based drug for COVID-19, allowing them to resume their normal lives without fear of hospitalisation and death. The scientists investigated the impact of the bark extract against coronaviruses in their laboratories. Researchers at IISER Kolkata tested the extract in animal models and showed that it had antiviral properties against coronavirus.

Using computer modelling, the researchers predicted that Neem bark extract will bind to the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein at various locations, preventing virus entry to host cells. Nagel's lab at the University of Colorado tested the Neem bark extract in SARS-CoV-2 human lung cells. The extract proved as effective as a preventive drug and also decreased virus replication and spread after infection. *PTI*

SAVE THE EARTH

China backpedals on climate promises as economy slows

GLOBAL WARMING

BEIJING: When China's President Xi Jinping issued his traditional Lunar New Year wishes from the country's coal heartland in January, the subtext was clear: Beijing is not ready to kick its coal addiction, despite promises to slash emissions.

The ink had barely dried on the hard-fought deal struck at last year's United Nations climate conference in Glasgow when Beijing's backslide on pledges began.

The country's central economic planner has watered down a roadmap to slash emissions, greenlighted giant coal-fired power plants, and told mines to produce "as much coal as possible" after power shortages paralysed swathes of the economy last year. Environmentalists are concerned this would mean China would continue to pollute beyond the 2030 deadline by which it has promised to have reached peak emissions. Xi's trip to mining towns in Shanxi -- China's biggest coal producing province -- saw him making crispy noodle snacks with families "recently lifted out of poverty".

"We are not pursuing carbon neutrality because others are forcing us, it's something we must do. But it can't be rushed," he said later, while inspecting a

thermal power plant.

"We can't delay action, but we must find the right rhythm."

Days earlier, Xi told Communist Party officials in Beijing that low-carbon goals should not come at the expense of "normal life" -- a major change in rhetoric from his 2020 announcement at a UN assembly that China would be carbon neutral by 2060.

The Glasgow pact encourages countries to slash their emissions targets, with the aim of limiting warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius (36 degrees Fahrenheit) ideally to 1.5 degrees. Experts have warned that global emissions must be halved within a decade to have a chance of achieving that goal. China generates an estimated 29 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions -- double the US share and three times that of the European Union.

Environmentalists had hoped that post-Glasgow, Beijing might announce a maximum carbon cap for the whole country but Li Shuo, a campaigner for Greenpeace China, told AFP that is now "off the table".

Policymakers in Beijing have long walked a tightrope balancing climate objectives with domestic growth.

Beijing has pledged to curb coal consumption after 2025 -- but last year, half of China's economy was fuelled by it.

Now as growth slows, authorities are resorting to an old formula of propping up smokestack industries to juice the economy. *AFP*

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02.03.2022
WEDNESDAY

DAY'S DIARY

ANC's deputy prez

On this day in 1990, Nelson Mandela was elected as the deputy president of the African National Congress a few weeks after he was released from prison

RALLIES ACROSS THE WORLD

Mandela was released from Victor Vorster Prison after spending 27 years in the gaol. He then toured extensively within the country and outside to address rallies organised by the ANC

TALKS FOR TRANSITION

In 1992, he was made ANC president. He led ANC in negotiations with Frederik William de Klerk to end apartheid and bring about a peaceful transition to nonracial democracy in South Africa

AS PRESIDENT

In 1994 he became South Africa's first democratically elected President. True to his promise, he stepped down in 1999 after one term

Kireeti Reddy on his debut launch

PG 4

Irene Augustin at the London Fashion Week 2022

WALK OF FAME

It was a dream-come-true moment for city-based model Irene Augustin, who was the only Indian to walk the ramp at the London Fashion Week 2022 recently

MONIKA MONALISA

THE London Fashion Week usually sets the mood for the international fashion week marathon, which includes the Milan Fashion Week and Paris Fashion Week. It is truly an exciting period for fashionistas. So when city-based fashion model **Irene Augustin** walked the ramp at the London Fashion Week 2022, which took place between Feb 18 and Feb 22, it was a dream come true. In fact, she was the only Indian model to have been there.

Augustin did a show for one of the top fashion universities, Central Saint Martins, London. "Every year they put up a show at the London Fashion Week. I wore a creation of a Nepali designer named Shakila Thebe. For her collection, she drew inspiration from the paddy fields," says Augustin, who has been the face of fashion labels like Anavila and Masaba, and has walked the ramp for various Indian fashion weeks.

The city-based model missed out on being part of the main shows since 'casting was done way ahead of the fashion week' and she reached London only in the first week of February. However, the experience was still exciting. "There were people from the industry present. It definitely does elevate your game as a model. This was something that was on my bucket list," says Augustin, adding that the London Fashion Week has always received attention from international media, which is good for models.

Her job might look glamorous but Augustin points out that making a cut, especially internationally, is very difficult. "For all of these fashion weeks, there's a height criteria which is the hardest to get through. It is 5'10" and above and I am 5'8". Sometimes, they do let go of it but it is such a hit on the situation," says Augustin, adding that this requirement is particularly difficult for Indians to meet. "One of the fashion designers said she would love me to showcase her collection, but all her apparels were for models above 5'10". She said, 'The clothes are going to hang on you no matter how high your heels are'," says Augustin, whose agency Milk Model Management helped her get the part.

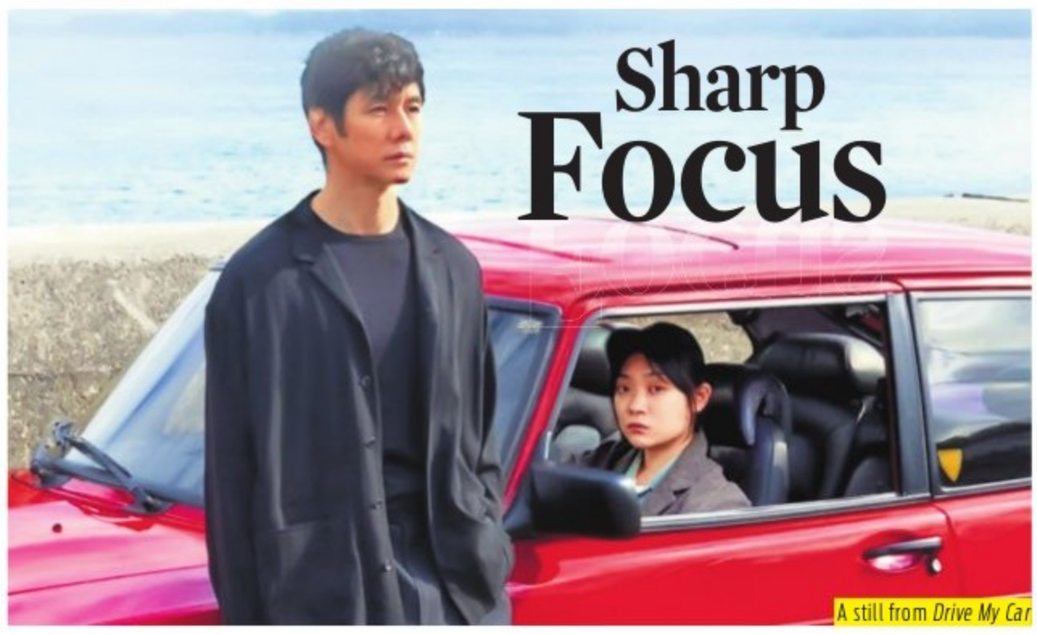
Due to Covid-19, the London Fashion Week this year was not as grand as the previous ones with only a few celebrities in attendance. "Fashion weeks are usually hectic so I could not make it to the after party," says Augustin. She also had plans to attend the recently-concluded Milan Fashion Week and the ongoing Paris Fashion Week but due to visa issues, she had to change plans. "I am going to be in London till the first week of April and create different fashion photoshoots for my portfolio," says Augustin.

All fashion weeks have a height criteria which is the hardest to get through. Models have to be 5'10" and above and I am 5'8". Sometimes, they do let go of it but it is such a hit on the situation

Irene Augustin, fashion model

After having to skip a year owing to the pandemic, the 13th Bangalore International Film Festival 2022 is all set to kick off from Thursday in a hybrid mode

Sharp Focus



A still from *Drive My Car*

SANATH PRASAD

WITH around 200 films, 400 screenings and the addition of new sections, this year the Bangalore International Film Festival (BIFFes) 2022 is all set to kick off from March 3. Organised by the Karnataka Chalanachitra Academy for the Government of Karnataka, the 13th edition of BIFFes will be conducted in a hybrid model (in theatres and on an OTT platform). H N Narahari Rao, artistic director of BIFFes says that the number of films being screened has reduced to 200, with more focus on thematic and context-based films.

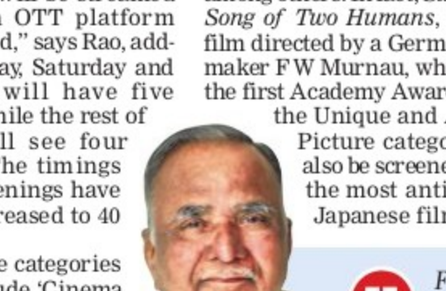
"From 250 films last year, we have reduced to 200 this year. We wanted to reduce the number and deliver quality. With the hybrid model coming in, at least 40 foreign films will be streamed online on an OTT platform called Cinesend," says Rao, adding, "On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, we will have five screenings, while the rest of the days will see four screenings. The timings between screenings have also been increased to 40 minutes now."

Some of the categories this year include 'Cinema of the World', 'Asian Cinema Competition', 'Indian Cinema Competition', 'State Focus (North East)', '50th Year of Tulu Cinema', among other sections. The two new additions to this year's festival are 'Film Critics Week' and 'Oscar Spectrum'. According to Rao, a list of film recommendations by critics across the world was shortlisted under the category 'Film Critics Week'. "This category was inspired by Cannes and the Venice Film Festival. We are having over seven films in this category, spread across all the continents. Some of the films include *Brother's Keeper, I Never Cry*, a Polish film, *Yuni*, an Indonesian film and others," says Rao, who is also the founder of Suchitra Film Society.

Meanwhile, the Oscar category will screen films that have been nominated and also won the Oscars. Some of the films being screened are *Parallel Mothers*, *Compartment No.6*, A Hero among others. In fact, *Sunrise-A Song of Two Humans*, a silent film directed by a German filmmaker F W Murnau, which won the first Academy Award under the Unique and Artistic Picture category, will also be screened. Even the most anticipated Japanese film *Drive My Car* that received four Oscar nominations has been selected for the 13th edition of BIFFes. The 'Country Focus' category will screen French films like *Vortex*, *Restless* while the Retrospective category will include a German film, *The Tin Drum* by filmmaker Volker Schlöndorff who will also be part of a panel discussion.

To celebrate 100 years of legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray, there will also be a premiere of *The Mystique of Pather Panchali*, directed by film journalist Justin Smith. As a mark of respect to late Sandalwood star Puneeth Rajkumar, there will be a panel discussion on Puneeth's artistic skills. In addition, the selection panel has also shortlisted 14 Kannada films out of 80, among which *Sri Jagannatha Daasaru* was the highly-rated film. Rao also mentions that he will be conducting a lecture-demonstration on the birth and rise of film festivals around the world and a discussion on the rise in the 'OTT trend' will be conducted.

BIFFes will be held between March 3 and March 10. For more details, visit BIFFes.org



From around 250 films last year, we have reduced to 200 this year. We wanted to reduce the number and deliver quality

H N Narahari Rao, artistic director, BIFFes

KNOW YOUR CITY

Arun Prasad, city-based history researcher, unravels interesting facts about Bengaluru in this weekly quiz series. So it's time for you to find out how familiar you are with the city, beyond its heritage buildings, IT parks and the pub culture.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Know Your City Quiz'**

Correct answers and names of first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Thursday.

1. Some of the roads and bylanes in Bengaluru are known by their abbreviated names. While Krishna Rajendra Road is known as KR Road, Jayachamarajendra Road is known as JC Road, Old Taluk Cutchery road as OTC Road, Chinmaya Mission Hospital road as CMH Road, Subedar Chatram road as SC Road, and so on. Expand OPH Road, a prominent road near Shivajinagar?

2. Hunsuru, Bevooru, Halasuru are some of the prominent place names in Karnataka having a floral derivation to them. Some of the roads in Bengaluru too have floral or garden connections to their names, Margosa Road, Sampige Road, Lalbagh Road, East Park Road, Silver Jubilee Park Road, Tulasi Thota Road etc. Which prominent residential locality in the city has Coconut Avenue Road?

3. Road names connected with their design or pattern are also prominent in Bengaluru. Double Road, Link Road, Ring Road, Chord Road, 100-feet Road, Curve Road are some of them. Name the prominent residential locality in the city where Serpentine Road is located.

CITY READ

PIC: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Handicrafts exhibition organised

Karnataka Handicrafts Development Corporation has organised an exhibition of handicrafts at the Sindhoor Convention Hall in JP Nagar, till March 8. On Tuesday, Siri Prahlad, Kannada film actor, visited the exhibition and was felicitated by MD of Corporation D Roopa Moudgil IPS . Ten women artisans were also felicitated on this occasion to encourage their work.

Defence ministry signs contract with BEL

The Ministry of Defence (MoD), Government of India, and Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) recently , signed a contract for the retro-modification of Commander Sight of Battle Tanks-T90 for the Indian Army. The retro-modification will be carried out in 957 tanks. The total value of the contract is ₹1,075 crore. The indigenous development of thermal imager-based Commander Sight, jointly by IRDE, DRDO and BEL, aims to provide a further boost to the 'Make in India' initiative.

From the land of Samurai

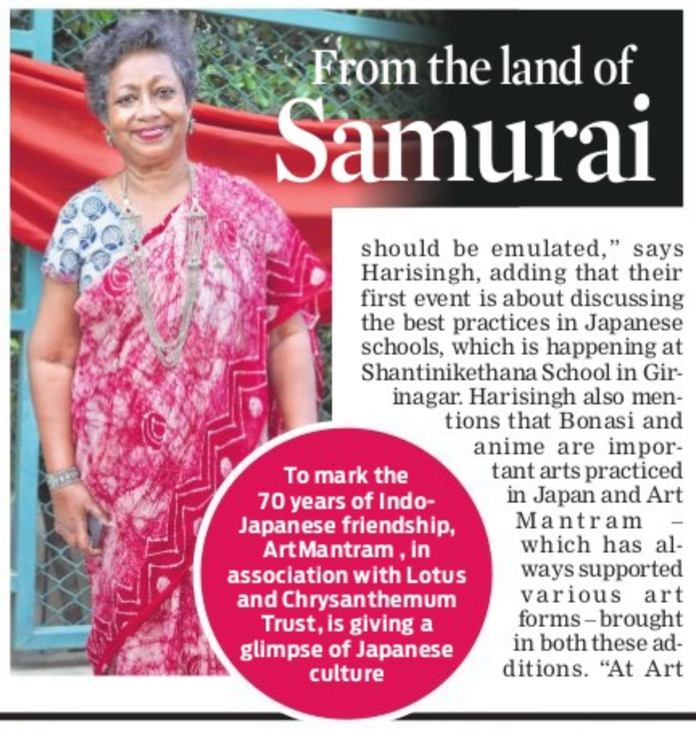
EXPRESS FEATURES

IT'S a milestone moment as India and Japan celebrate seven decades of friendship. To mark this occasion, ArtMantram, in association with Lotus and Chrysanthemum Trust, is coming up with a three-day event on Indo-Japanese culture. It will be held between March 3 and 5.

"This is a celebration of 70 years of the Indo-Japanese friendship. The Consul-General of Japan is taking the initiative to hold celebrations and Lotus and Chrysanthemum Trust is playing a major role in promoting Japanese and Indian culture," says **Jija Harisingh,** founder trustee and president of the trust.

The events include cultural exchanges for children to learn arts like Bonsai. "Japanese culture of cleanliness and meticulousness is something that should be emulated," says Harisingh, adding that their first event is about discussing the best practices in Japanese schools, which is happening at Shantinikethana School in Girinagar. Harisingh also mentions that Bonasi and anime are important arts practiced in Japan and Art Mantram – which has always supported various art forms – brought in both these additions. "At Art Mantram, we had not done anything on these lines, so we thought it would be a good way to include it," she says.

A common tie between India and Japan is both the countries' inclination towards culture and art, as well as handling of issues with tact and diplomacy. "Tensions will always be there, either political, social or economic. But we handle it with tact and diplomacy," says Harisingh.



To mark the 70 years of Indo-Japanese friendship, ArtMantram , in association with Lotus and Chrysanthemum Trust, is giving a glimpse of Japanese culture

CALENDAR

March 3: Best practices from Japanese School- Shantinikethana School, Girinagar

March 4: Bonsai LecDem and Talk on Indo-Japanese Innovation- Chitrakala Parishath

March 5: Cosplay show and competition-- Christ University, Bannerghatta Road

RAMEN DELIGHT

Get a taste of Japan's most popular dish- Ramen. Check out a wholesome Ramen spread in both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. It includes tanmen ramen, kinoko miso ramen, tori miso ramen, chasyu ramen and much more.
When: Till March 6
Where: Edo Restaurant & Bar, ITC Gardenia, Residency Road,
Details: 080 2211 9898

FINANCE FESTIVAL

Register for a free two-day online finance festival Femwest featuring over 15 industry leaders. The event will help you learn the techniques of generating passive income, knowing latest trends in finance, and much more. **When:** March 8-9, 4pm-6pm. **Details:** HerMoneyTalks website

MUSICAL CONCERT

Ekatvam Holi Music Fest - a three day music festival comprising 12 concerts and unlimited music will be organised. Renowned musical artistes, including Sarfraz Khan, Priya Purshothaman, Kiran Hegde among others will be performing during the musical festival.
When: March 18-20 **Where:** Bangalore Gayana Samaja, Basavanagudi **Tickets:** bookmyshow.com

FOR A CHANGE

Heritage Beku, a conservationist group is conducting an online panel discussion on 'Karnataka Administrative Reforms and You'. Get a chance to participate with an expert panel and devise plans to help reform administration, with a focus on urban development.
When: March 2, 5pm **Details:** Heritage Beku Facebook page.

CATCH STANDUP COMEDIAN **ATUL KHATRI** PERFORM LIVE FOR *DADDY COOL* **WHEN:** MARCH 11 **TICKETS:** BOOKMYSHOW.COM

Taco Treat

Taco Bell has launched Cheese Max Box- a wholesome experience for cheese lovers. The meal box offering comprises of four items including the ultimate cheese taco, mini quesadilla-cheese, cheesy seasoned nachos and unlimited pepsi. The meal box is priced at ₹349 vegetarian variant and ₹399 for non-vegetarian variant.
Available at Taco Bell outlets.

Footwear Collection

Check out Wood's latest collection of footwear for women. The collection includes a stylish range of block heel slip-ons for women, block heel sandals, that is designed in various styles and shades. Available at Wood's and Woodland stores

Natural Care

Forest Essentials, an ayurvedic brand is launching a new collection of personal care products. It includes intense solid perfumes that is available in two fragrances, sunehre din and chandani raatein, facial lepas which available in three variants chandan varnya, haldi varnya, neem varnya and other products. **Available** at Forest Essentials website.

Personal Care

The Moms Co. has launched their new product- natural exfoliating lip scrub- that aims to provide a toxin-free solution for soft and nourished lips. It also focuses on softening the lips, repair damaged skin and smoothen dry lips. **Available** at The Moms Co. website.

Chinese Delight

Chowman launched its first flagship outlet at Indiranagar. Diners can enjoy a wide range of Chinese culinary dishes including Sui Mai, Crispy Tofu in Hong Kong style, Prawn Har Gao, Crispy Fried Crab Wontons, Barbeque Fish, and much more. For **reservation** call, 8041521019

Money Matters

Join an investment planning workshop with financial expert Neeraj Mahajan. Curated for students, homemakers, retired persons, the sessions aim to introduce aspiring investors to the stock market, the do's and don'ts, how to pick winning stocks and much more. **When:** Ongoing
Details: bookmyshow.com

QUICK FIX

What's cooking

IN YOUR KITCHEN?
We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

APPLE CAKE

INGREDIENTS
- **Plain cake**
- **Sugar:** 1/4 cup
- **Water:** 1/2 cup
- **Desiccated coconut:** 1/3 cup
- **Cocoa powder**

METHOD
- In a pan, add water and sugar. Mix well and allow it to boil till sugar completely dissolves. Turn off the flame and allow the syrup to cool down.
- Keep the desiccated coconut ready on a plate. Crumble the cake and keep it aside. Add cocoa powder mix well.
- Slowly, add sugar syrup and mix well until soft. Pinch a small portion of dough, roll into a round shape.
- Coat the chocolate ball in desiccated coconut and keep aside. Repeat the process with the remaining dough. Serve the apple cake. You can store it in the refrigerator and consume.

—Dr Archana Santhosh, Bengaluru

SOUND BOARD

THE DECK
This new weekly podcast shares critical information about unsolved mysteries from a set of 52 playing cards distributed throughout state and local prison systems in the hopes that someone knows something and comes forward with information.
- **On Apple Podcast**

WAS I IN A CULT?
This podcast hosted by filmmaker Tyler Measom and comedian Liz Iacuzzi is both informative and entertaining. It not only humanizes the experience of people who have fallen victim to cults but may make you rethink what actually constitutes one in the first place.
- **On Audible**

PHILOSOPHY BITES
Have you ever had a conversation regarding the significance of metaphysics in our understanding of the world? Do you understand what verificationism is? Nigel Warburton and David Edmonds, hosts of 'Philosophy Bites,' welcome guests for wonderful introductions to the debates, philosophers, and ideas that have influenced our world.
- **On Spotify**

MAINTENANCE PHASE
With its hilarious, insightful look at the fake information clouding the market, Maintenance Phase is here to help you distinguish reality from fantasy. It demystifies an immensely difficult issue in a way that we can all understand, from fad diets to vibrators, fat-shaming to whatever Gwyneth Paltrow is doing at any given time.
- **On Spotify**

SIBLING RIVALRY
Bob and Monet X Change The drag queens are humorous, political, and vulgar, and they routinely get together on their entertaining podcast to speak about celebrity, politics, and current events.
- **On Spotify**

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

NALLA
Preethi, who has a cognitive disability, is kidnapped and forced into prostitution. However, a chance meeting with Prashanth, a teacher, changes her life forever.
- Cast: Sudeep, Srinath, Tara, Sangeetha

SAHUKARA
Muthu, a faithful servant, works for Sahukara. However, when Sahukara realises Ranganayaki, the one he loves likes Muthu, he throws Muthu out of the house
- Cast: Shashikumar, V Ravichandran, Rambha, Vishvardhan

GENTLEMAN
Kicha is a modern-day Robin Hood, who along with his friend, Mani, steals from the rich to aid the poor. In society, he is a respected man who runs a small business.
- Cast: KT Kunjumon, Madhoo, Charan Raj, Goundamani

DRISHYAM 2
Georgekutty, a cinema hall owner, thrives in life but is a changed man. However, when his family gets entangled in a criminal investigation, he must protect them from the legal institution yet again.
- Cast: Esther Anil, Mohanlal, Anjali Nair, Meena

RAJU - KANNADA MEDIUM
Raju, an ambitious village boy, goes to Bengaluru to fulfil his dreams. He experiences a lot of challenges in the city that help him learn some valuable life lessons.
- Cast: Gurunandan, Avantika Shetty

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 THE PSYCHOLOGY OF EVIL BY PHILIP ZIMBARDO
In this talk, Philip Zimbardo shares insights and graphic unseen photos from the Abu Ghraib trials. Then he talks about the flip side: how easy it is to be a hero, and how we can rise to the challenge. Zimbardo was the leader of the notorious 1971 Stanford Prison Experiment — and an expert witness at Abu Ghraib.

2 CLOSE-UP CARD MAGIC WITH A TWIST BY LENNART GREEN
The rumpled Swedish doctor Lennart Green says, "Pick a card, any card." But what he does with those cards is pure magic. Cards that fly all over the table, spill onto the floor, and disappear beneath a laser beam. Welcome to the chaotic and flabbergasting magical world of Lennart Green, grand master of close-up card trickery.

3 THE ART AND CRAFT OF BREAD BY PETER REINHART
Batch to batch, crust to crust... In tribute to the beloved staple food, baking master Peter Reinhart reflects on the cordial couplings (wheat and yeast, starch and heat) that give us our daily bread. Try not to eat a slice. Master breadmaker Peter Reinhart is also a teacher, author and theologian.

4 GREAT DESIGN IS SERIOUS, NOT SOLEMN BY PAULA SCHER
Paula Scher looks back at a life in design (album covers, books, the Citibank logo...) and pinpoints the moment when she started really having fun. Look for gorgeous designs and images from her legendary career.

5 DO THE GREEN THING BY ANDY HOBSBAWM
Our climate is changing quickly, too quickly. And great creativity is needed to do what it does so well: to provoke us to think differently with dramatic creative statements. To tempt us to act differently with delightful creative scraps. Andy Hobsbawm shares a fresh ad campaign about going green — and some of the fringe benefits. He is the founder and CMO of Evrythng.com and the website Do The Green Thing.

FIT BIT

PADA PRASAR ASANA

(LEGS SPREAD INTENSE STRETCH OF THE WEST ASANA)

This is a seated forward fold, which also involves a slight spinal twist. It is a good pose for relieving stress, anxiety, and menstrual discomfort. It is more beneficial for improving flexibility, boosting digestion, and toning your stomach. It is a restorative pose because of its calming and re-energizing effects. It activates and balances the Muladhara (root) and Swadisthan (sacral) chakras as they can release any tension held in the legs or lower abdomen. It is more suitable for Vata and Pita Doshas.

STEPS
- Sit with the legs spread wide apart. Inhale and interlock the fingers behind your back.
- Turn your torso to the right.
- Then, raise your arms up behind the back. Exhaling, bend forward over the right leg and keep the arms straight, trying to touch the knee with your nose.
- Hold the position for as long as you are comfortable. Breathe slowly and deeply in the final position or hold the breath.
- Inhale, raise the trunk and lower the arms. Now, turn left and repeat the movements.
- Return to the centre. While exhaling, bend forward and try to touch the forehead to the floor in front while raising the arms up behind as far as you can. Breathe slowly and deeply.
- Hold the position for as long as you are comfortable. Return to upright position, lowering the arms. This completes one round.
- You can do 3 to 5 rounds.

BENEFITS
- Gives an extended stretch to the inside of the legs, the muscles under, and in between the shoulder blades.
- The chest is opened more and the effect is distributed throughout.
- Stretches the muscles, shoulders, hamstrings and stimulates the liver, kidneys, ovaries, and uterus.
- Contracts the muscles of the anterior part of the body.
- Improves functions of intra-abdominal glands, respiratory process. Improves flexibility of lumbar area, hips, and behind the thighs and calves.

LIMITATIONS
- Master Paschimottanasana before attempting this. Don't bend your knees or arch your spine while bringing the forehead forward.
- People suffering from asthma, diarrhea, slipped disc, or recent abdominal surgery, avoid this.
- In case of back injury or sciatica, perform only under the supervision of a yoga expert.

— by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

THAMIZHUM SARASWATHIYUM (Tamil,series)
Saraswathi decides to get married as she is unable to pass Class 12. Destiny brings her closer to Thamizh, a responsible but uneducated man, who wishes to marry an educated woman.
Cast: Meera Krishna, Nakshathra Nagesh, Dharshna Sripal Golecha
- Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

BADAVA RASCAL (Kannada)
Shankar, a young man, is kidnapped by a gang of thugs. However, to escape his predicament, he narrates his life story to make his abductors rethink their decisions.
Cast: Amrutha Iyengar, Dhananjay, Nagabhush
- Watch on: Voot

ENEMY (Tamil)
Former childhood friends enter into an intense rivalry fuelled by their escalating competitive nature.
Cast: Vishal, Mamta Mohandas, Mirnalini
- Watch on: Sony Liv

LOVE HOSTEL (Hindi)
Love Hostel tells the story of a spirited young couple who are hunted by a ruthless mercenary. The film stars Vikrant Messey, Sanya Malhotra, and Bobby Deol in important roles. The film directed Shanker Raman by is a crime thriller.
Cast: Sanya Malhotra, Vikrant Massey, Raj Arjun
- Watch on Zee5

MALLI MODALAINDI (Telugu)
A divorced man falls in love with a divorce lawyer. He is in his 30s and she is 28. But going by how the scenes play out, you can be forgiven for believing that it's a generic love story between two 20-something individuals trying to figure out what don't want.
Cast: Pavani Reddy, Naina Ganguly, Varshini Sounderajan
Watch on: ZEE5

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

THE FAME GAME (Hindi, series)
When India's most famous actress goes missing, the search for her chips away at the flawless facade of her life and family, revealing painful truths.
Cast: Madhuri Dixit, Lakshvir Saran, Manav Kaul, Sanjay Kapoor
- Watch on: Netflix

HRIDAYAM (Malayalam)
A man in his early 30s reflects on his misspent youth and the rocky road that brought him to adulthood.
Cast: Pranav Mohanlal, Kalyani Priyadarshan, Darshana Rajendran
- Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

FOREIGN

VIKINGS: VALHALLA (English, series)
The adventures of famous Vikings as they blaze new paths in an ever-changing Europe. Valhalla is a spin-off of the History Channel series Vikings, whose six seasons took viewers from the first Viking raid of England, when the Scandinavian seafarers attacked a monastery on the island of Lindisfarne in 793 CE.
Cast: Sam Corlett, Frida Gustavsson, Laura Berlin
- Watch on: Netflix

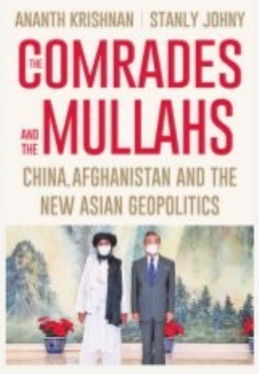
SPACE FORCE (English, series)
A four-star general begrudgingly teams up with an eccentric scientist to get the U.S. Space Force up and running.
Cast: Diana Silvers, Steve Carell, Tawny Newsome
- Watch on: Netflix

REACHER (English, series)
Jack Reacher, a veteran military police investigator, has recently entered civilian life when he is falsely accused of murder.
Cast: Alan Ritchson, Willa Fitzgerald, Kristin Kreuk
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

PAM AND TOMMY (English, series)
Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee's honeymoon sex tape is stolen and leaked to the public.
Cast: Lily James, Sebastian Stan, Seth Rogen
- Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

SUBSCRIPTION
Disney+ Hotstar: ₹ 499 per year
Apple TV: ₹ 99 per month
Prime Video: ₹ 129 per month
Netflix: ₹ 149 per month

BOOK SHELF

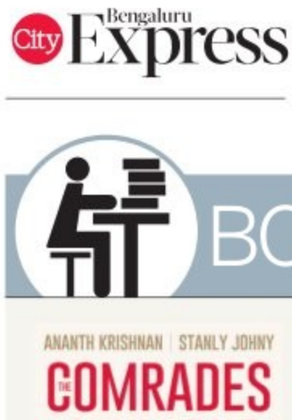


Comrades and the Mullahs

Authors: Stanly Johny and Ananth Krishnan

Pages: 304

America's withdrawal from Afghanistan was a historical event that left a huge vacuum on both Afghanistan's future and on Asian geopolitics, thus bringing China into the picture. This book traces the emergence of China as a key player in Afghanistan, and the evolution of China's Afghan policy with a focus on its relations with the Taliban. The book also examines what Beijing's interests are and the drivers of its foreign policy, and specifically how the new Silk Road project-the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), is shaping China-Afghan relations.

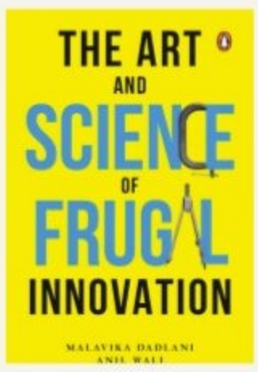


The Freelance Way

Author: Robert Vlach

Pages: 456

Here is a business book for independent professionals. It presents the best available and updated freelance know-how, compiled from hundreds of sources, including surveys, the latest market data, advice from experts, real-life experiences and stories from hundreds of professionals in different fields and countries. The contents of this volume cover all the basics and best practices for beginning freelancers, as well as advanced career strategies and tools for freelance veterans.

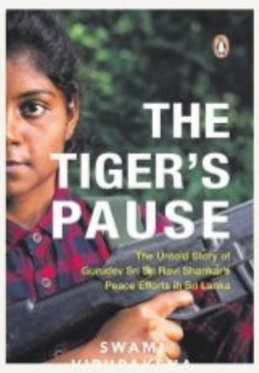


The Art and Science of Frugal Innovation

Authors: Malavika Dadlani, Anil Wali, and Kaushik Mukerjee

Pages: 264

This book gives a fresh perspective on frugal innovations on the basis of a scientific approach leading scientists, technologists, and business management experts with an in-depth understanding of frugal innovation. It also focuses on providing cost-effective and sustainable solutions to problems through science-based product development and systematic diffusion of innovation.



The Tiger's Pause

Author: Swami Virupaksha

Pages: 208

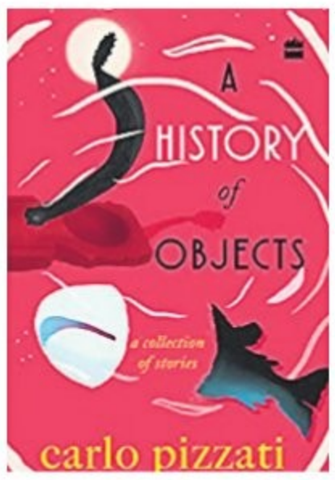
Set in the context of the Civil War in Sri Lanka, the book throws light on India's popular spiritual leader who mediated between two forces. The story revolves around how Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, founder of the Art of Living, visited the island nation with a singular aim – to bring peace to its citizens while trying to mediate between Prabhakaran, leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), and the government. It chronicles Gurudev's time in a highly strung country and also offers an exclusive look into the final chapters of Sri Lanka's deadly conflict.

'IT WAS TIME TO TAKE A BREAK FROM PARIS'

IT happened mid-afternoon, right after lunch. Anne had returned from her meeting carrying a fragrant roast chicken, They had both eaten the little bird with the appetite of a couple who still made love often. Gustav had sunk the tip of his fingers through the ribs of the chicken, scraping the chest of all shreds of meat, stuffing his mouth, sucking the grease off his fingers. While chewing, Gustav had bitten the side of his tongue and tasted his blood mixed with the white meat.

Now, as he was holding Hector's tiny torso, after putting a clean diaper on him and massaging the baby with some talcum powder, he felt a shiver of horror traverse him. Hector and the chicken were the same thing. Sentient beings with feelings, with the same experience of life.

Gustav realized that the chicken he had just eaten in such a famished rush had been a small chick, conceived by parents and, even more importantly, that that animal, having a rib cage that so resembled that of his son, was actually a being in no way different from a human. That chicken had lived. He had felt. He had rejoiced in the simple basic and common fact of being alive, taking pleasure from nourishment, from the warmth of a mother or perhaps even a father, from the joy of waking up, opening his eyes, and experiencing life through all senses.



That's when Gustav felt that all beings - chickens, pigs, cows, goats, sheep - all beings that we humans kill, skin, drain of blood, chop, quarter and prepare in a neat package for a counter, all of them had the experience of life. The same as us. He felt like a cannibal.

The day after, when Gustav and Anne took Hector out to get some fresh Parisian air in his stroller and stopped at the corner brasserie for lunch, Gustav found himself in front of a tourist menu with images of meat and fish glazed over by a special lighting effect, which Anne explained involved a cube of panels refracting light so as to make a dead fish look like one of the blond ladies in the professor's vintage porno magazines. It wasn't exactly nausea Gustav felt from what, until the day before, had been his favourite dish, the yummy steak frites; it was something deeper. It was a specific feeling, the feeling that his own flesh could be there, on that plate, garnished with crunchy, oily potato strips. He ordered a niçoise salad without tuna.

Two weeks later, Gustav and Anne found themselves with Hector in the Moroccan coastal town of Essaouira. They had gotten on an inexpensive flight from Paris to Marrakesh and rented a car at the airport. It was time to take a break from Paris, and Anne would also photograph the annual Berber music festival, which gathered musicians from all over the world. Gustav recognized the thick walls of the city where Orson Welles had shot Othello. He was aware of how much his own experience of architecture, cities and geography had been influenced by his exposure to literature and cinema. He felt he was culturally programmed and could not experience anything without a reference to an illustrated volume he read as a child, or a memorable movie he saw as a teenager, or a profound novel he read in his twenties.

Carlo Pizzati

(Excerpted from A History Of Objects by Carlo Pizzati, with permission from HarperCollins)

From an abandoned barren land to a green lush private sanctuary, author Pamela Malhotra recounts the transformation

MONIKA MONALISA

PAMELA Malhotra's *From the Heart of Nature* (₹599, Penguin Random House) documents the story behind the creation of a private forest sanctuary in India. More than just the struggle, Malhotra also recounts how she connected with animals and trees both at a physical and spiritual level.

What was the turning point in your life?

My husband Anil and I shared that love of wildlife and that dream. This realisation initially came while living in the USA in the late 1970s and early 1980s, which is why we established our first small wildlife sanctuary on the Big Island of Hawaii in 1979. When we came to India in January of 1986, we were quite upset by the deforestation we saw, especially in the Himalayas. We had gone to Haridwar and fell in love with the Himalayas. So, we purchased land in the Uttarkashi region to help reforest that area.

How did you zero-in on Kodagu?

There were land ceiling laws in the state (then Uttar Pradesh - now Uttarakhand) that limited a family to owning just 12 acres of land. There was not enough land for establishing a forest wildlife sanctuary through reforestation. Also, we had visited Nagarhole National Park in Jan 1986, where the then-Wildlife Warden of the Park urged us to establish our forest wildlife sanctuary in his home district of Kodagu. As a result my husband Anil travelled throughout southern India to see what he could find, finally finding suitable land in Kodagu. Purchasing larger pieces of land was possible here if the land was deemed 'plantation' and the purchaser was an agriculturalist which my husband was.

What were the initial struggles that you faced?

Accessing the land. It was almost impossible to bring in any kind of building materials for our home in the beginning due to the poor roads. So, my husband put loads of rocks and other road material into these dirt roads to help give us drivable access which was also a big boon for the local people. Another major challenge was the legal maze encountered in the district since lands were divided into several different categories, often with different rules/laws applying to different categories in terms of purchase and ownership. Acceptance by the local people was also initially a challenge, although the older generation did understand the importance of maintaining forests and not killing off all the wildlife. The most distressing challenges have been illegal logging and poaching of wildlife.

The sanctuary is spread across 300 acres, what are the kinds of species that are found there?

Hundreds of species have made the sanctuary their full-time home and/or come visit frequently. A short list of species found here includes 100s of species of butterflies and birds including Great Indian Hornbills and Malabar Grey Hornbills, Bengal tiger, Asian leopard, Asian elephant, sloth bear, dhole (Indian wild dog), Gaur (Indian bison), species of deer (sambar, cheetal, muntjac/barking deer) etc. So diverse are the species found here that one Oxford scientist dubbed our sanctuary 'Noah's Ark'.

You first purchased the land for the sanctuary in 1992, to create a private sanctuary. How did you decide on writing a book?

I hope to sow the seeds of love of nature in the hearts and minds of all who read the book, and to create a sacred perspective when viewing and dealing with nature.

NUGGETS

International lit fest to celebrate 75 years of *A Streetcar Named Desire*

After two years, the Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival is set to return with an in-person event to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the play *A Streetcar Named Desire* sketched by the legendary playwright. The literary fest will have a five-day run starting from March 23 through March 27. The event's executive director, Paul J Willis said, "After a cancelled festival in 2020 and a virtual festival last year, we are so happy to be returning to our home at the Hotel Monteleone once again for our five-day festival." "Several of our special events focus on this beloved Pulitzer Prize-winning play, including our opening night, tribute reading and breakfast book club. We are working with city officials to create the safest environment possible so everyone can enjoy the festival once again," the statement further read. – IANS

MEMORIES OF SHIVARATRI

URBAN BOURBON
Hriday Ranjan
Writer, comedian

GROWING up in an ashram, Shiva was my favourite god. While regular kids discussed their favourite cricketers – we discussed gods. Shiva's songs were melodiously set in Bhairav raaga, his appearance was calm and meditative, his stories were the most exciting.

Like people who go to an MLA's house with requests, I had my own list – but the most important of them all was this. Dear Lord Shiva, please let me not fail the Math board exam. Shivaratri was a big deal in our school. We were taught slokas and stotras, and the day witnessed prayers and meditation sessions. Finally, it ended with night-long bhajans that culminated in a feast for everybody in the ashram.

Incidentally, Shivaratri also comes in March – the month of annual exams. When the schedules for the board exams were announced, I prayed that we get enough 'gap days' before the Math exam. The gap days were decided by CBSE – after considering all the subjects of students across the country.

I was terrified of failing the Math exam. I'd heard stories of kids who had failed, and been abandoned by their parents. In hindsight, I realise that failing the exam wouldn't have been that big a deal. I'd have to write a supplementary exam and get on with my life. But back in Class 10, the fear of failing permeated my soul. Finally, the schedule was announced, and I found that we had 10 days of 'gaps' before the Math exam. Moreover, the examination was right on the day after Shivratri. The Lord had heard my prayers!

For the first few days, I focused like a ninja. I had all my materials – text books, guide books, previous years' question papers, geometry box, log papers, and a bundle of prayers. In the era before Byju's and YouTube, studying meant sitting silently in a corner with your books open. I focused for two days, but the mind is a fickle monkey. I began to play a little cricket, read a Sidney Sheldon novel – and before I knew it, there were only two days left!

Sometimes in life, you realise you can only surrender to the Almighty, and that's exactly what I did. I put my books away, and began to pray. In mythological stories, devotees would pray till anthills formed around their bodies, and Shiva eventually granted them their boon. I fasted and prayed the entire day. I sang bhajans passionately all night. I promised Lord Shiva that I'd behave myself. I'd never trouble my teachers, parents, or friends. I'd steer clear of bad thoughts, and grow up to be a good citizen of the country. All I wanted in return was to pass in Mathematics.

The day of the examination was a blur of equations, hopes, and LHS-RHS. I wasn't bothered about the other subjects. I had no dreams of engineering or IIT, and was comfortable with the knowledge that I'd be studying Commerce. The exams ended, and then began the one month gap between the board exams and the results being announced. A month fraught with tension.

The results were announced on the internet, and I rushed to find a big, fat 53 sitting comfortably in my scoresheet. I thanked Lord Shiva, nearly welling up with relieved tears.

I didn't fully fulfil my side of the contract to Shiva. I have hurt friends and family, and I haven't really become an ideal citizen. But every Shivratri, I think back to the time when I surrendered to Lord Shiva. I shall try to stay up tonight too, but with the help of some old friends. I hope the Lord understands.

(The writer's views are his own)

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KM SAPNA VARMA**, aged 24 years, W/o. **Vijay Kumar Kothari,** residing at No. 1729, 8th Cross, 6th B-Main, 2nd Stage, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru- 560040, have changed my name to **SAPNA VIJAY KOTHARI** vide affidavit dated: 28-02-2022 sworn before Notary **H.S. SAKALESH ARADHYA,** BENGALURU.

AFFIDAVIT
I, SAROJA W/o G.H. RAMESH aged about 37 years residing at No.06 Madavara Basavanna Temple Road, Dasanapura, BANGALORE-562123 have declared that the names **SAROJA and SAROJAMMA .R,** belongs to me only, and both names belongs to one and the same person. I further state that, now I have been corresponding with my name i.e., Saroja. in all officials purposes. vide affidavit dated 28-02-2022 sworn before notary H.S. Sakalesh Aradhya, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHIVAKUMARA MUNINAGAPPA** S/o **Muninagappa Balappa,** aged about 46 years, R/at No.1, Kurudusonnenahalli, Virgonagar Post, Bangalore- 560049, have changed my name to **SHIVAKUMAR MUNINAGAPPA** vide affidavit dated: 28/2/2022 Before Notary **Mahesha.J.J** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RIMPIKA RATNAKAR NAIK, aged about 27 years, D/o RATNAKAR NARAYAN NAIK and W/o MURALI MOHAN H V , permanently residing, after marriage, at No. 114, Srinivasapura, Y. Hosakote, Kolar, Karnataka State and currently residing with my husband at No 5-02, 3RD Floor, Sri Nilayam, 2nd B Cross, Venkateshwara, Bengaluru - 560048, have changed my name to **RIMPIKA MURALI MOHAN** Vide affidavit dated 28-02-2022 Identified by Advocate Aravinda Kamath P, sworn before Advocate & Notary Prakasha .C, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) NACHATHRA MARI PRIYA, D/o. A.John Bosco, residing at No. 9, 3rd Cross, Anandapura, T.C.Palya Post, Bengaluru-560036, have changed my name to **(NEW NAME) NAKSHATHRA MARY.J** vide affidavit Dated 21/02/2022 sworn before Notary Y.V.Shankar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, PAVITRA Spouse of No.5454873F, Rank: Hav, Name: Krishna Bahadur Thapa, residing at Gorkha Basti, Post Kumjam Ban, Dist: Agartala, Teshil-Agartala, State- West Tripura-799001, have changed my name from PAVITRA to **PAVITRA THAPA,** vide Affidavit dated 09/02/2022 sworn before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) POOJA, D/o. Jones, resident of No. 6, 9th Main Road, Hosapalya, Muneshwara Nagar, Bengaluru-560068, have changed my name to **(NEW NAME) SHARON POOJA JONES** vide affidavit Dated 24/02/2022 sworn before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SASHIKALA B.N** W/o Chandru. B.M, aged about 39 years residing at No.13/14, Mallikarjuna Nilaya, Lakshman Nagar, Bengaluru- 560091. I have changed my minor Daughter name from **"BENAKASHREE.C"** to **"VARNIKHA PRIYAA.C"** vide affidavit Dated: **25/02/2022** before Notary **GANGAMBIKE.H.S,** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Arup Kumar Dutta** S/o Shambhu Dutta Residing at #408 VMAKS Heights Hilalige Rd, Electronic City Phll have chnage my name to **ARUP DUTTA** for all purposes for all future purposes. Vide affidavit dated on : 15/02/2022. Sworn before Notary : Chanchala Lakshmi.

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I COULDN'T HAVE ASKED FOR A BETTER LAUNCH: KIREETI REDDY

The Kannada-Telugu bilingual directed by Radhakrishna is backed by Vaaarahi Chalana Chitram; SS Rajamouli will be the chief guest for the muhurath that will be held on Mar 4

Kireeti Reddy

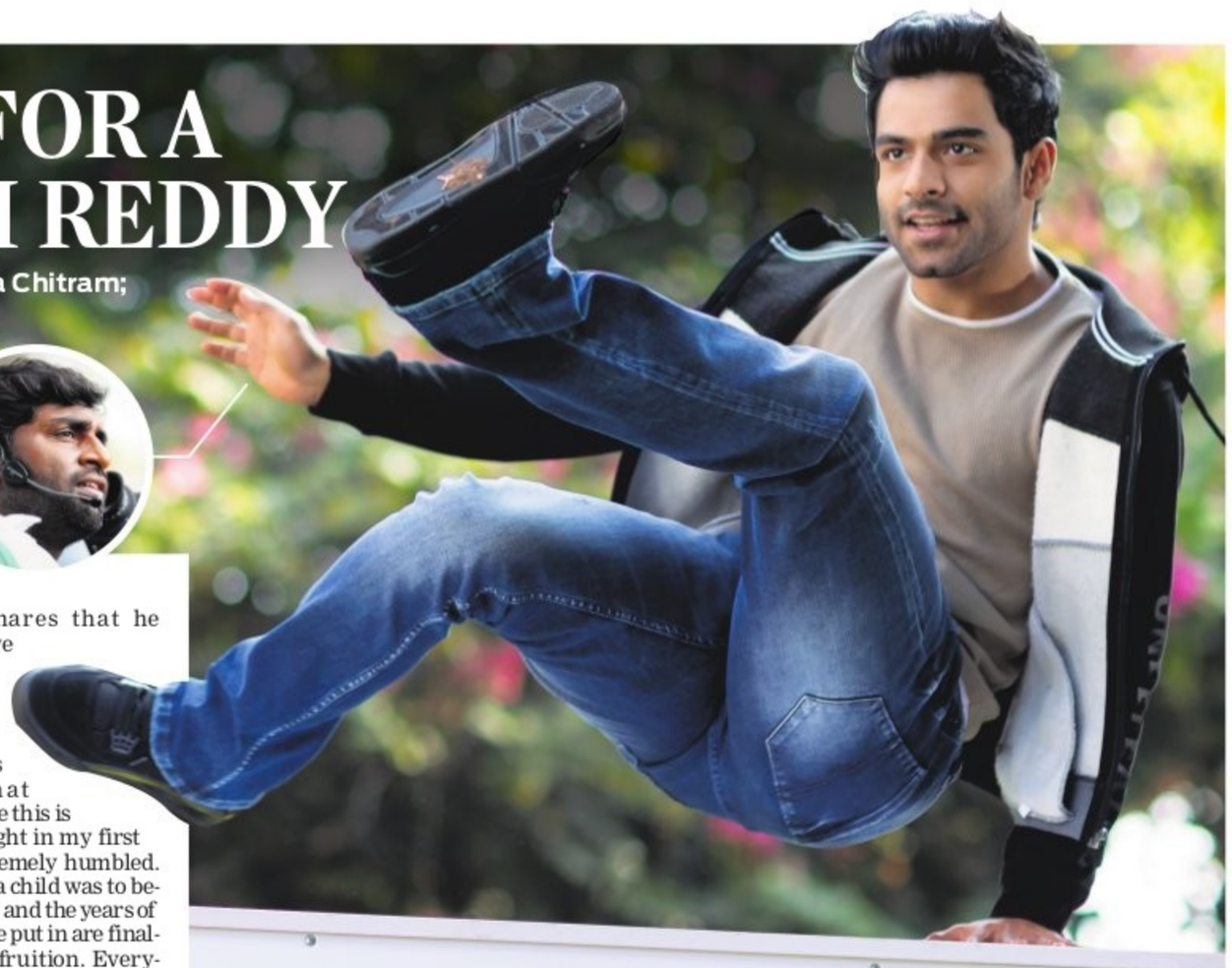
CE FEATURES

WE had earlier reported that Kireeti Reddy, son of political honcho Janardhan Reddy, will enter Sandalwood with director Radhakrishna's second film. The project has now been officially confirmed by the popular production house, Vaaraahi Chalana Chitram, known for producing films on a big canvas. The project will be a Telugu-Kannada bilingual and will be the 15th project from the production house. The makers are planning for a grand launch on March 4 with SS Rajamouli being the Chief Guest at this muhurath.

The project is billed as an action-packed family entertainer with elements of love and the makers are expected to rope in noted actors for the film.

The yet-to-be-titled film to be produced by Sai Korrapati will have music by Devi Sri Prasad, and cinematography by K Senthil Kumar of *Baahubali*-fame. Raveendar is the production designer and top stunt director Peter Hein will be choreographing the action sequences for the film.

Kireeti shares that he couldn't have asked for a better launch. "I can't even believe to this moment that something like this is happening right in my first film. I'm extremely humbled. My dream as a child was to become an actor, and the years of training I have put in are finally coming to fruition. Everything is going great," he says. "The story by Radhakrishna will cater to the audience of all ages," he says.



> I can't even believe to this moment that something like this is happening right in my first film. I'm extremely humbled. My dream as a child was to become an actor, and the years of training I have put in are finally coming to fruition. Everything is going great
> — Kireeti Reddy

Sunny Leone's spy series *Anamika* gets release date

CE FEATURES

ANAMIKA, an upcoming spy series directed by Vikram Bhatt, will release on MX Player on March 10.

The series stars Sunny Leone as *Anamika*, a female agent with amnesia who has allegedly gone rogue. The 8-episode gun-fu action series also stars Samir Soni, Sonnalli Seygall, Rahul Dev, Shehzad Shaikh and Ayaz Khan.

Commenting on the release, Sunny Leone says, "Action is a genre that I haven't really explored in the past and when I read the script of Anamika, I was both amazed and excited to play this power-packed character under the guidance of the very talented Vikram Bhatt. The way I was trained for my character and engaging with the entire cast has been a great experience. I can't wait to see what the audience has to say about the series."

Anamika is being dubbed in Marathi, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada.

'Puneeth Rajkumar was a great source of encouragement'

...says music director Charan Raj, who is composing music for a Puneeth film for the first time

A SHARADHAA

WE are all set for the release of Puneeth Rajkumar-Chethan Kumar's *James*, which will be on March 17. The team released the introduction song, titled *Trademark*. The glimpse into this Charan Raj-composed song features a power-packed dance performance by the late actor.

With James being planned as a pan-Indian film, the team released the song in five different languages. Apart from Puneeth, the song also features Charan Raj, composer and rapper, Chandan Shetty, and heroines -- Rachita Ram, Ashika Ranganath, and Sreeleela.

Charan Raj says that the lyrical video is more like a promotional video, but the film version will definitely have a full-fledged dance by Puneeth. Charan shares that working with Puneeth in *James*, which marks his first collaboration with the actor, was a dream come true. "However, I never expected this to become such an emotional journey," says the music director, who has composed five songs for the film. "Puneeth always gave equal attention to music and was a big support right from the time we began the compositions for *James*. He comes across as a great source of encouragement. This would be something every collaborator with Puneeth would say. He was a person who always supported young talents. He would be one of the first to call me, and appreciate my music," says Charan Raj, adding, "I miss all of it now."

Charan Raj recalls his interaction with Puneeth about *James*' music album. "Puneeth gave his inputs about the songs, and discuss it with the team. But the special moment was when he had invited me home for lunch when he spoke about music, which was just a month before he passed away. He did have so much of plans and wanted something different for *James*. I can only say that his loss has created a big vacuum."

Charan Raj says Puneeth Rajkumar had a good taste for music. "He would listen to the music created by various composers and singers, and he would suggest us to listen to the same. He also had a lot of interest towards independent music directors, and international music."

For *James*, Charan Raj has composed a title track, an introductory song, a romantic number, an energetic patriotic song on soldiers, and a pathos song. When asked what was the biggest challenge in composing for *James*? "Since *James* is an action-packed movie, it required a lot of focus. The music of *James* is heavily influenced by hip hop and funk rock," says the music director, who has managed to bring out 5 tracks each in five languages. My personal favourite is the pathos track, and the soldier track." The lyrics to all the songs in Kannada are penned by director Chethan Kumar. "We have well-known singers Raghu Dixit and Sanchith Hegde singing most of the songs in all the five languages. The patriotic song in Malayalam is sung by Kapil Nair," Charan told us.

With Charan Raj focused on the music album, popular composer-filmmaker V Harikrishna will be handling the rerecording of *James*.

Charan Raj emotionally admits to missing the Power Star. "During the process of composing, I had to watch the footage of Puneeth Rajkumar, and every moment of watching him on the screen was painful, " says Charan Raj, who revealed that the second half of *James* is high on emotions.

James produced by Kishore Pathikonda stars Priya Anand in the female lead, along with Sarathkumar, Srikanth Mekka, Anu Prabhakar Mukherjee playing pivotal roles.

Charan Raj and Puneeth Rajkumar

Actor-director Vijay Kumar's second film titled *Bheema*

The title was unveiled along with the first-look motion poster of the film

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Vijay Kumar, who made a successful directorial debut *Salaga*, will be helming his second project, titled *Bheema*. The title of the film, along with a motion poster, was unveiled on Tuesday (March 1) on the occasion of Shivarathri.

Similar to his debut, Vijay has picked up another realistic-based subject for *Bheema*. "Bheema, dealing with an intense subject, will put forth a lot of true incidents and episodes," says Vijay Kuamr. All the technicians who worked in *Salaga* will be part of *Bheema*. The film's music will be scored by Charan Raj. Maasti will be penning the dialogues. The camerawork will be handled by Shiv Sena, and Deepu S Kumar will take care of the editing. "The film's story, and Vijay Kumar's direction, is what attracted me to this project," says Krishna Sarthak, who is bankrolling the project along with Jagadeesh Gowda.

The preparation work for *Bheema* is going on for the last one-and-a-half months. The team plans to begin the film once Vijay completes shooting for his Telugu debut. The actor is playing an antagonist in Nandamuri Balakrishna's film - tentatively titled NBK 107.

> *Bheema*, dealing with an intense subject, will put forth a lot of true incidents and episodes
> —Vijay Kumar, actor /director

Michael Douglas to play Benjamin Franklin in limited series for Apple TV+

CE FEATURES

HOLLYWOOD star Michael Douglas will star as US founding father Benjamin Franklin in a new limited series.

The yet-untitled series is based on the book A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France, and the Birth of America by Pulitzer Prize winner Stacy Schiff. Kirk Ellis, the writer behind John Adams series, will write the show for Apple and serve as an executive producer.

Emmy-winning director Tim Van Patten will direct and executive produce. Douglas will executive produce in addition to starring. Richard Plepler will executive produce via EDEN Productions, which is currently under an overall deal at Apple. Tony Krantz of Flame Ventures and Mark Mostyn also executive produce, with Schiff co-executive producing. Apple Studios and ITV Studios will co-produce.

The series will explore the story of one of the greatest gambles of Franklin's career. At age 70, without any diplomatic training, Franklin convinced France - an absolute monarchy - to underwrite America's experiment in democracy. By virtue of his fame, charisma, and ingenuity, Franklin outmanoeuvred British spies, French informers, and hostile colleagues, all while engineering the Franco-American alliance of 1778 and the final peace with England of 1783.

The eight-year French mission stands as Franklin's most vital service to his country, without which America would not have won the Revolution.

Douglas most recently starred in the Netflix series The Kominsky Method, which aired its third and final season on the streamer in 2021. His starring role in the series earned him a Golden Globe in 2019 and three consecutive Emmy nominations for best actor in a comedy series. Douglas is primarily known for his film roles.

He won the Oscar for best actor for his iconic role in *Wall Street* in 1988, with Douglas reprising the role of Gordon Gekko in Wall Street 2: Money Never Sleeps in 2010.